

**Juristat**

## Homicide in Canada, 2013

By Adam Cotter  
Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics

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- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| .              | not available for any reference period   |
| ..             | not available for a specific reference period  |
| ...            | not applicable   |
| 0              | true zero or a value rounded to zero   |
| 0 <sup>s</sup> | value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded |
| p              | preliminary  |
| r              | revised  |
| x              | suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the <i>Statistics Act</i>                                   |
| E              | use with caution   |
| F              | too unreliable to be published   |
| *              | significantly different from reference category ( $p < 0.05$ )   |

## Homicide in Canada, 2013: highlights

- Police reported 505 homicides in Canada in 2013, 38 fewer than the previous year. Compared to 2012, the homicide rate decreased 8% to 1.44 victims per 100,000 population, the lowest rate since 1966.
- The decline in Canada's homicide rate was due to considerably fewer homicides in Quebec. There were 68 homicides in Quebec in 2013, 40 fewer than in 2012, resulting in the lowest rate ever recorded in that province (0.83 per 100,000 population).
- Although six provinces reported increases in the number of homicides from 2012 to 2013, only Newfoundland and Labrador and Prince Edward Island recorded homicide rates that were higher than their previous ten-year average.
- Generally, homicide rates were highest in the West and the North. Manitoba had the highest provincial homicide rate (3.87 per 100,000 population), followed by Saskatchewan (2.71), Alberta (2.04), and British Columbia (1.66). While Nunavut (11.24) and the Northwest Territories (4.59) reported homicide rates higher than any province, there were no homicides in Yukon for the third consecutive year.
- Regina reported the highest homicide rate among Canada's census metropolitan areas (3.84 per 100,000 population), followed by Winnipeg (3.24) and Thunder Bay (2.46). No homicides were reported in Moncton, Saguenay, Sherbrooke, Peterborough, or Guelph.
- While stabbings (40%) and shootings (27%) remained the two most common methods for committing homicide in 2013, compared with 2012, there were 41 fewer shootings and 31 more stabbings in Canada. The decrease in shootings resulted in the lowest rate of firearm homicide in over 40 years (0.37 per 100,000 population).
- After remaining stable for the past three years, gang-related homicides decreased in 2013. At 0.24 per 100,000 population, the gang-related homicide rate was at its lowest point since 2004.
- Consistent with previous years, most solved homicides involved a victim being killed by someone they knew. In 2013, this was the case for nearly 9 in 10 (87%) victims.
- There were 68 intimate partner homicides in 2013, 14 fewer than in the previous year. The majority (82%) of victims of intimate partner homicides were female, as has been the case historically.
- Males are more commonly involved in homicide as both victims (71%) and as accused persons (88%).
- Youth (aged 12 to 17) accounted for about 1 in 10 (9%) of all persons accused of homicide in 2013. There were 39 youth accused of homicide in 2013, four more than in the previous year.
- About three-quarters (76%) of homicides since 2003 have been solved by police. Of those, more than two-thirds (69%) were solved within one week of occurring, and about one-quarter (26%) were solved within 8 to 364 days. The remainder (5%) were solved one year or more after occurring.

## Homicide in Canada, 2013

by Adam Cotter

Homicide continues to be a relatively rare event in Canada, accounting for about 0.1% of all police-reported violent crime and about 0.2% of all annual deaths. In a given year in Canada, there are about 4 times more deaths from motor vehicle accidents and about 7 times more deaths from suicide than there are deaths from homicide.<sup>1</sup> While rare, homicide is the most serious criminal offence in Canada and can have devastating consequences for families, communities, and society more broadly. Homicides also require considerable police and criminal justice resources and, due to their visibility, can contribute to the public's perception of safety (Romer et al. 2003).

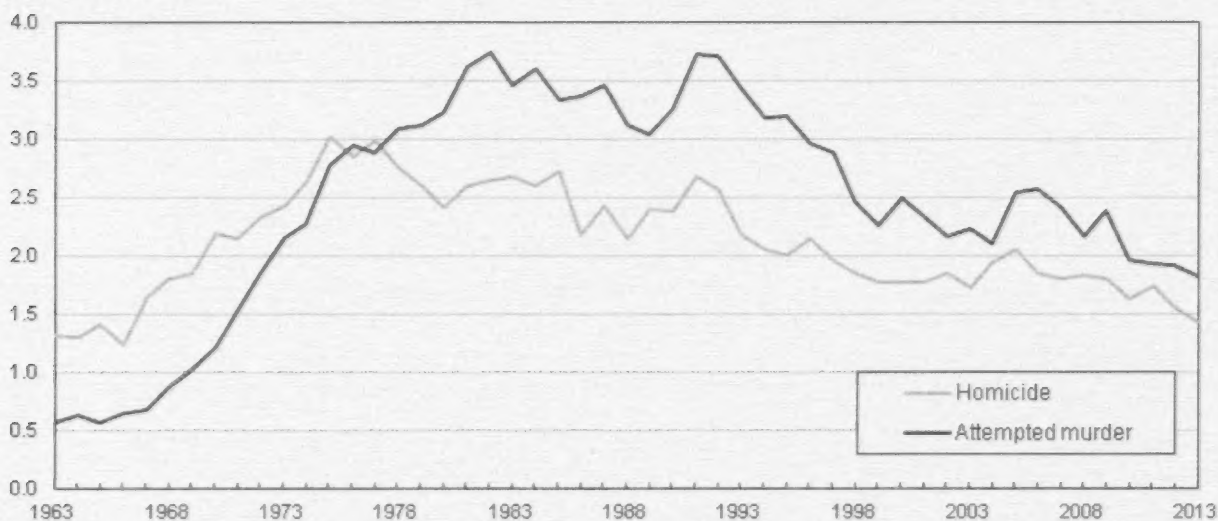
Since 1961, police services have been reporting detailed information on homicides in Canada through Statistics Canada's Homicide Survey. In 1974, the survey was expanded to include manslaughter and infanticide. Using data from the Homicide Survey, this *Juristat* explores the characteristics of homicide incidents, victims, and accused persons in 2013 and compares these findings to short- and long-term trends.

### Homicide rate at its lowest point since 1966

For the second consecutive year, the number of homicides reported by Canadian police services decreased. In total, 505 homicides were reported in 2013, 38 fewer than in the previous year, and the fewest number of homicide victims in Canada in over 40 years.<sup>2</sup> As a result, Canada's homicide rate fell 8% to 1.44 per 100,000 population, the lowest rate recorded since 1966 (Table 1a; Table 1b; Chart 1).

**Chart 1**  
**Homicides and attempted murders, Canada, 1963 to 2013**

rate per 100,000  
population



**Note:** Excludes 329 victims killed in the Air India incident in 1985. Data on homicide are available back to 1961 through the Homicide Survey, while data on attempted murder are available back to 1962 through the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey and Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

In addition to the decline in homicides in 2013, there were also 23 fewer victims of attempted murder in Canada. As a result, the rate of attempted murder in Canada reached its lowest point since 1971 (Boyce, Cotter and Perreault 2014). In general, attempted murder and homicide have followed similar trends over the past 20 years (Chart 1).



## Text box 1

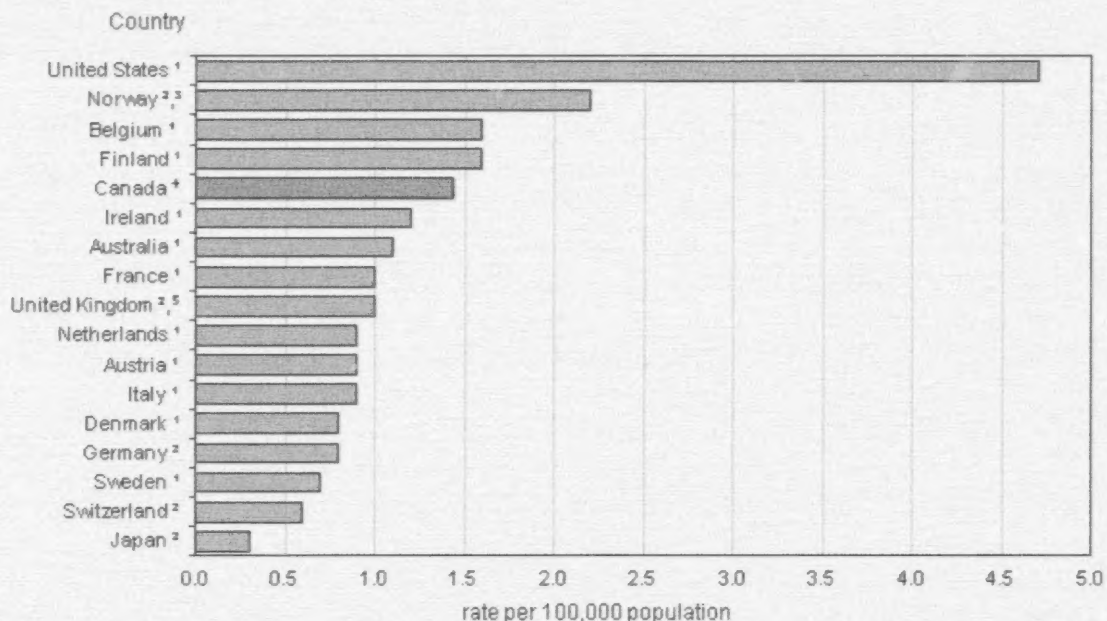
## International homicide rates

International comparisons of crime can be difficult to make due to differences in laws, trends in reporting to police, or standards for counting or recording criminal offences. However, homicide numbers and rates serve as a barometer of violence in society and allow for international comparisons more readily than other types of crime due to similar definitions across countries and the increased likelihood that they are reliably reported and thoroughly investigated (Nivette 2011; Shaw et al. 2003; United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime 2011).

In 2013, Canada continued to rank relatively high in homicide rate compared with the latest published data from peer<sup>3</sup> countries (Text box 1 chart). While Canada's homicide rate (1.44 per 100,000 population) was comparable to those recorded in Belgium (1.6 per 100,000 population) and Finland (1.6 per 100,000), it was well above homicide rates in Switzerland (0.6 per 100,000) and Japan (0.3 per 100,000). As has been the case historically, the United States continued to have a homicide rate higher than other peer countries. In 2013, the homicide rate in the United States (4.7 per 100,000) was about three times higher than that of Canada.

## Text box 1 chart

## Homicides, by peer countries, most recent year



1. Figures reflect 2012 data.

2. Figures reflect 2011 data.

3. Includes homicides committed during the Utoya Island mass shooting in July 2011. From 2001 to 2010, Norway's annual homicide rate fluctuated between 0.6 and 1.1 per 100,000 population.

4. Figures reflect 2013 data.

5. Includes England and Wales.

**Note:** Peer countries were determined using a methodology developed by the Conference Board of Canada. The Conference Board of Canada began by selecting countries deemed "high income" by the World Bank, then eliminated countries with a population less than one million, as well as countries smaller than 10,000 square kilometres. Of the remaining countries, the Conference Board of Canada used a five-year average of real income per capita and eliminated any countries that fell below the mean. Based on these criteria, a total of 17 countries remained.

**Source:** Statistics Canada and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

## Quebec records lowest homicide rate in over 50 years

The decline in homicides at the national level was the result of a large decrease in Quebec, where there were 40 fewer homicide victims in 2013 than there were in 2012 (Table 1a). The year-over-year decrease was partly a reflection of a higher than average number of homicides in 2011 and 2012, when there were 105 victims and 108 victims, respectively. However,

the 68 homicides reported in 2013 represented the fewest number of victims of homicide in that province since 1967, and was well below the average number of victims over the previous ten years (97). As a result, Quebec's homicide rate in 2013 (0.83 per 100,000 population) was the lowest ever recorded in that province since data collection began in 1961. Only Prince Edward Island (0.69 per 100,000) reported a lower homicide rate among the provinces than Quebec in 2013 (Table 1b).

The decline in Quebec was the result of decreases across the province. Each census metropolitan area<sup>4</sup> (CMA) in Quebec had fewer homicides in 2013 than in 2012, with the largest decreases reported in Saguenay and Montréal (each with 4 fewer victims). In addition, there were 26 fewer homicides in areas in Quebec outside of CMAs. A decrease in multiple-victim homicides also contributed to Quebec's overall decline, as there were 2 incidents with multiple victims in 2013 compared with 8 in 2012. That said, there were also considerably fewer homicides involving single victims in 2013 (64 compared with 88).

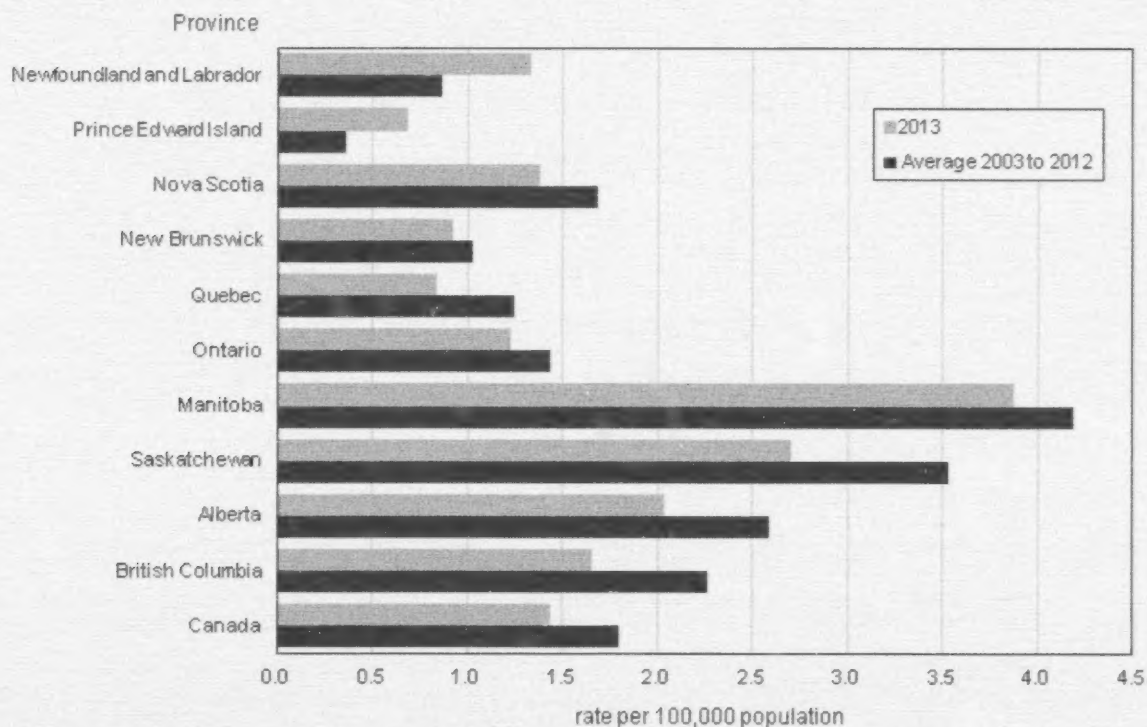
In contrast to the decline in Quebec, some provinces recorded modest increases in the number of homicide victims in 2013, with the largest increases occurring in British Columbia (+5 victims), Ontario (+4), and Newfoundland and Labrador (+4).

Manitoba recorded a 7% decrease in homicide rate from 2012. However, with 49 homicides, Manitoba continued to have the highest homicide rate (3.87 per 100,000 population) among the provinces for the seventh consecutive year. Continuing the trend evidenced over the past 20 years, the highest homicide rates were observed in the western provinces. Manitoba was followed by Saskatchewan (2.71 per 100,000), Alberta (2.04 per 100,000), and British Columbia (1.66 per 100,000).

Along with the West, the territories tend to have higher homicide rates. In recent years, this has not held true for Yukon. For the third consecutive year, there were no homicides recorded in Yukon. However, Nunavut, with 4 victims, and the Northwest Territories, with 2 victims, had homicide rates higher than those recorded in any province in 2013 (11.24 per 100,000 population and 4.59 per 100,000 population, respectively). While Nunavut had the highest rate of any province or territory for the ninth consecutive year, the homicide rate in that territory reached its lowest point since 2006.

In 2013, most provinces recorded homicide rates that were below their previous 10-year average, with the exception of Newfoundland and Labrador and Prince Edward Island. The four western provinces have recorded the highest average homicide rates over the past decade, while rates in the eastern provinces (Ontario, Quebec, and the Atlantic provinces) have tended to be below the national average (Chart 2).

**Chart 2**  
**Homicides, by province, 2013**

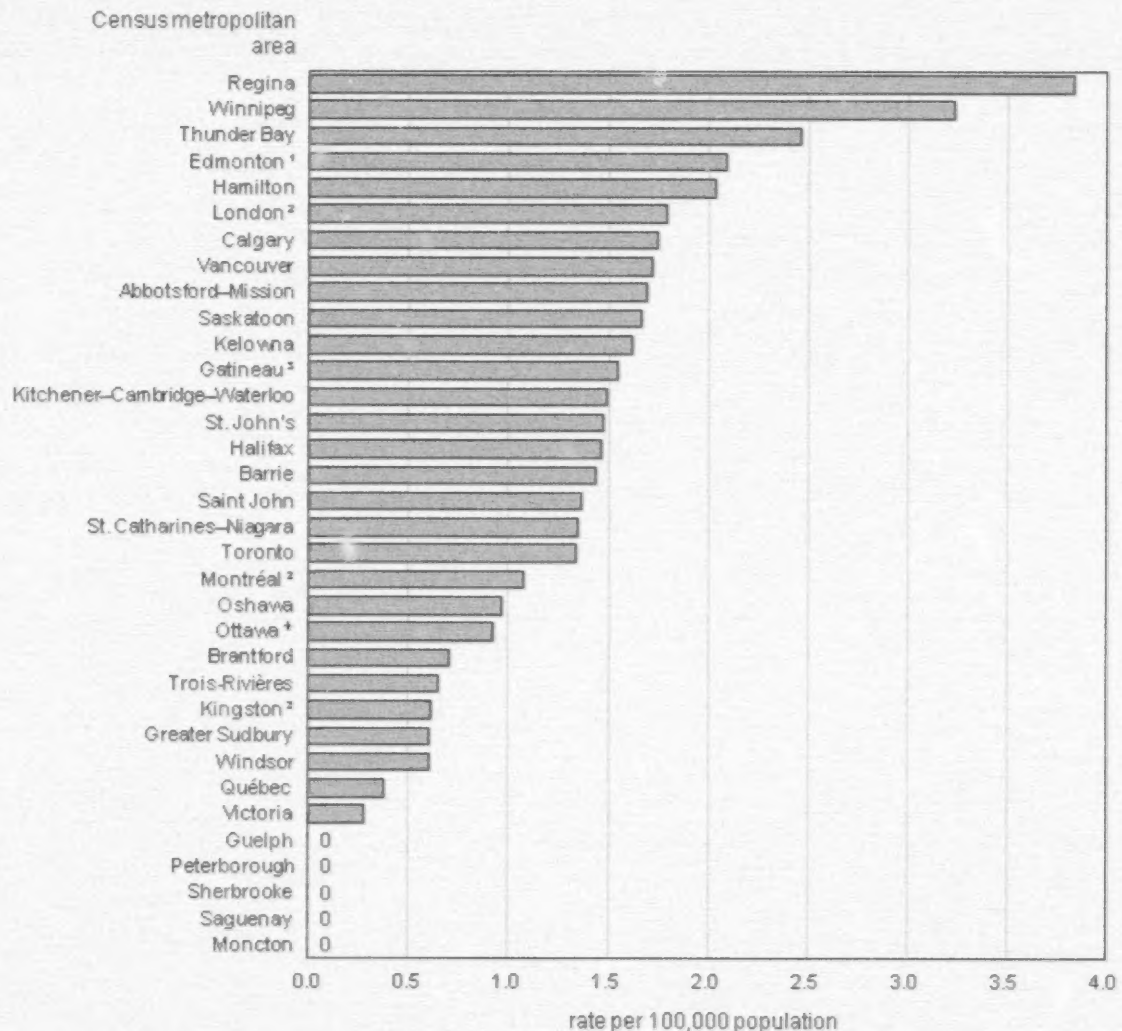


Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

## Regina records highest homicide rate among census metropolitan areas

Reflecting the trends at the provincial level, three of the four highest homicide rates among Canada's CMAs were recorded in the West (Table 2, Chart 3). In 2013, Regina recorded the highest homicide rate among CMAs (3.84 per 100,000 population), followed by Winnipeg (3.24 per 100,000), while Edmonton (2.09 per 100,000) ranked fourth. Thunder Bay, which recorded the highest homicide rate in 2012, had 4 fewer homicides in 2013 and reported the third-highest homicide rate among CMAs (2.46 per 100,000).

**Chart 3**  
**Homicides, by census metropolitan area, 2013**



1. Includes two homicides committed in a correctional institution in 2013.

2. Includes one homicide committed in a correctional institution in 2013.

3. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa-Gatineau CMA.

4. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa-Gatineau CMA.

**Note:** A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, other adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CMA typically comprises more than one police service.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.



There were no homicides reported in five CMAs in 2013: Moncton, Saguenay, Sherbrooke, Peterborough, and Guelph. For Moncton, it was the third consecutive year where no homicides were recorded, while for Guelph, it was the second consecutive year.

In 2013, the five largest CMAs (Toronto, Montréal, Vancouver, Calgary, and Edmonton) accounted for 43% of all homicides in Canada, while also accounting for 43% of the population of Canada. These five CMAs also followed the general pattern of higher homicide rates in the West (Vancouver, Calgary, and Edmonton) and below average rates in the East (Toronto and Montréal).

Consistent with previous years, homicide rates in CMAs were lower than those in non-CMAs, despite a perception that violent crime is more common in large urban areas (Francisco and Chénier 2007). In 2013, the homicide rate in non-CMAs was about 9% higher than in CMAs (1.52 per 100,000 population compared to 1.40).

#### Text box 2

##### Multiple-victim homicides in Canada

The 505 homicide victims reported by police in 2013 were a result of 480 separate homicide incidents. The vast majority (95%) of homicide incidents in 2013 involved a single victim, while there were a smaller number of homicide incidents with two victims (4%) and three victims (less than 1%).

Since 2003, there have been 272 multiple-victim incidents of homicide, accounting for 4% of all homicide incidents over this period. In these incidents, a total of 615 victims were killed. In comparison, although the United States tends to have a considerably higher homicide rate than Canada (see Text box 1), roughly 5% of homicide incidents involve multiple victims, similar to the proportion in Canada (Smith and Cooper 2013).

Of all homicide incidents since 2003, those with multiple victims have been more likely than those involving single victims to involve a firearm (53% compared to 30%). They have also been more likely to involve a female victim (61% compared to 27%). In addition, when an accused person was identified, multiple-victim incidents involved a family member as the accused person more frequently than single-victim incidents (55% compared to 32%).<sup>5</sup> For multiple-victim homicide incidents involving family, the accused was most frequently a parent (54%).<sup>6</sup>

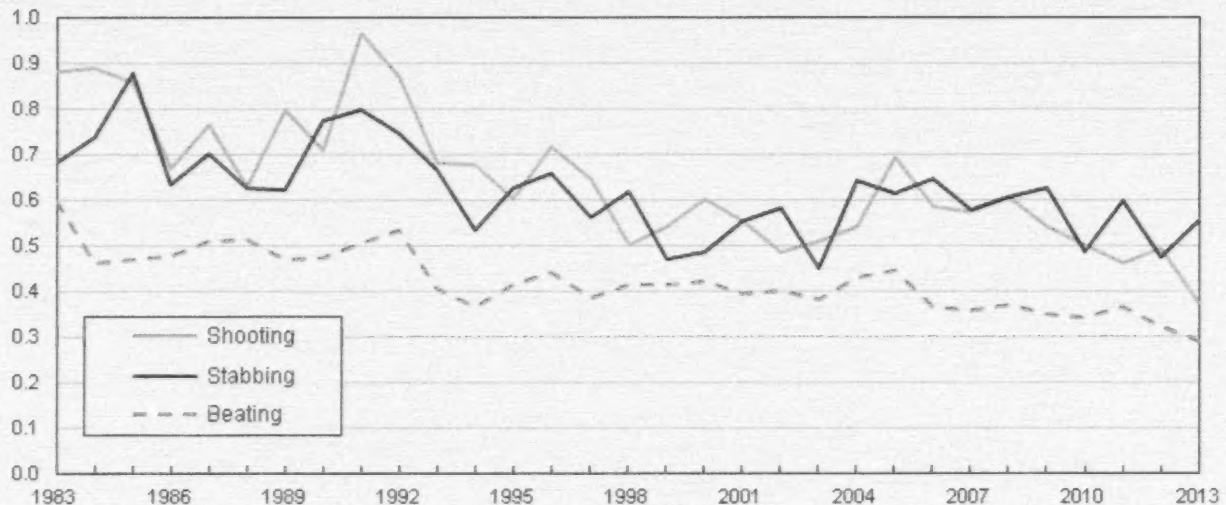
#### Lowest rate of firearm-related homicide in over 40 years, but stabbings increase in 2013

The large majority of homicides in Canada are committed by one of three methods: shooting, stabbing, or beating. In 1979, for the first time, the number of victims who died as the result of stabbing exceeded the number of victims of beatings; since then, shooting and stabbing have been the two primary methods of homicide in Canada. This trend continued in 2013, as stabbings (40% of all homicides) and shootings (27% of all homicides) were the two primary methods of homicide, followed by beatings (21%) (Table 3; Chart 4).



**Chart 4**  
**Homicides, by most common method, Canada, 1983 to 2013**

rate per 100,000  
 population



**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

While shooting and stabbing continued to be the two most frequent methods of homicide in 2013, there were 41 fewer shootings and 31 more stabbings in Canada compared with 2012. As a result, the rate of firearm-related homicide decreased 25%, while the rate of homicides committed by stabbing increased 18%.

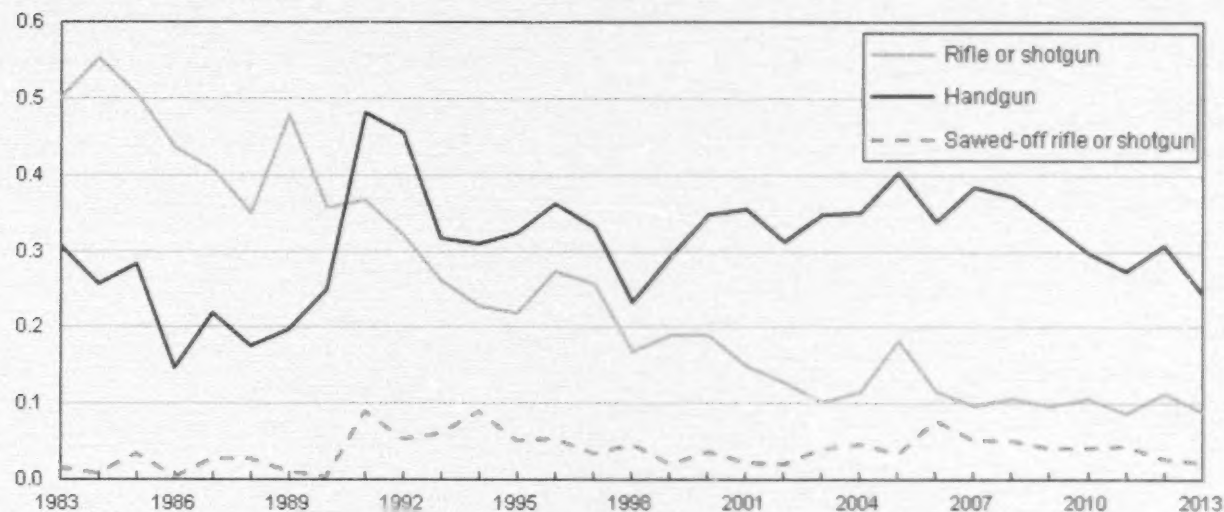
Both the decrease in shootings and the increase in stabbings were driven by Ontario and Alberta. In 2013, the largest decreases in firearm-related homicides were reported in these two provinces (17 fewer victims in Ontario, 13 fewer in Alberta). Much of these decreases occurred in the CMAs of Toronto and Edmonton (each with 10 fewer victims). Additionally, Ontario and Alberta each reported 12 more victims of homicides committed by stabbing in 2013, with much of the increase in these provinces occurring in Calgary (10 more victims) and Toronto (7 more victims).

As a result of the decline in shootings, the 2013 rate of firearm-related homicides was the lowest recorded by the Homicide Survey since comparable data became available in 1974 (0.37 per 100,000 population) (Table 4). British Columbia, with 29 victims of firearm homicide, reported the highest rate among the provinces (0.63 per 100,000), followed by Newfoundland and Labrador, with 3 victims (a rate of 0.57 per 100,000).

The most frequent type of firearm used to commit homicide differed across the provinces. The rate of homicide committed with a handgun was highest in British Columbia (0.52 per 100,000), followed by Newfoundland and Labrador (0.38) and Ontario (0.26). New Brunswick (0.26) and Manitoba (0.24) recorded the highest rates of rifle or shotgun homicide.

Among CMAs, Abbotsford-Mission (1.13 per 100,000 population), Kelowna (1.08 per 100,000), and St. John's (0.99 per 100,000) reported the highest rates of firearm-related homicide, each with two victims in 2013 (Table 5). In 2013, the firearm-related homicide rate was higher in CMAs than in non-CMAs. This was driven by a considerably higher rate of handgun-related homicide in CMAs (0.31 per 100,000) compared with non-CMAs (0.08 per 100,000). In contrast, homicides were committed with rifles or shotguns at a higher rate in non-CMAs than in CMAs (0.23 per 100,000 compared with 0.03).

Since peaking in the 1970s, the firearm-related homicide rate has generally been declining. Continuing a trend that began in 1991, handguns were the most frequently used type of firearm in firearm-related homicides in 2013. About two-thirds (68%) of firearm-related homicides in 2013 were committed with a handgun, a proportion which is similar to firearm-related violent crime in general (Cotter 2014).<sup>7</sup> While handguns continued to account for the majority of firearm-related homicides in 2013, the rate of homicides committed with a handgun was at its lowest point since 1998 (0.24 victims per 100,000 population) (Chart 5).

**Chart 5****Firearm-related homicides, by selected type of firearm, Canada, 1983 to 2013**rate per 100,000  
population

**Note:** Excludes homicides committed with the use of other types of firearm, such as fully automatic firearms or firearm-like weapons (i.e., nail gun, pellet gun).

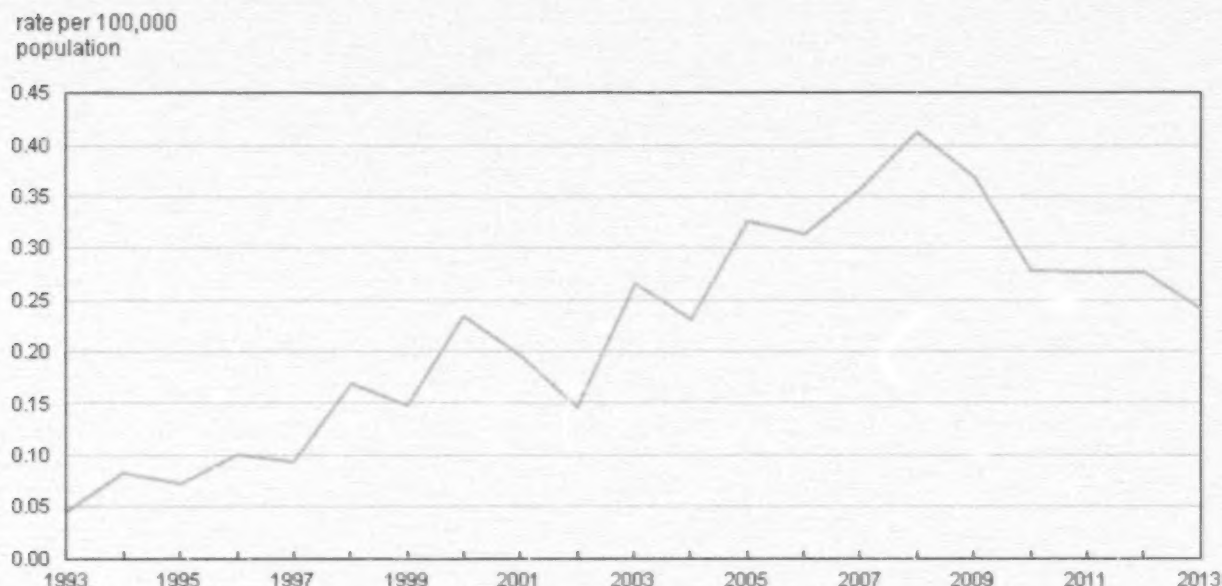
**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

Not only did handgun-related homicides decline in 2013, but homicides committed with a rifle or shotgun also declined slightly, to a rate of 0.09 per 100,000 population. While the rate of rifle or shotgun homicide has been relatively stable since 2006, the rate in 2013 was 89% below the rate in 1975, when it was at its highest recorded point.

### Fewer gang-related homicides in 2013

After three years of no change, gang-related<sup>8</sup> homicides decreased in 2013. There were 85 homicides classified as gang-related by police in Canada in 2013, 11 fewer than in 2012 (Table 6). As a result of the decline, the gang-related homicide rate (0.24 per 100,000 population) was at its lowest point since 2004 (Chart 6).

**Chart 6**  
**Gang-related homicides, Canada, 1993 to 2013**



**Note:** These data became available beginning in 1991. A homicide is classified as gang-related when police confirm or suspect that the accused person and/or the victim involved in the homicide was either a member, or a prospective member, of an organized crime group or street gang or was somehow associated with an organized crime group or street gang, and the homicide was carried out as a result of this association. Prior to 2005, police were asked if the homicide was "gang-related". Beginning in 2005, the question was amended to give police the option of specifying whether the homicide was: (a) confirmed as gang-related or (b) suspected as being gang-related. As such, figures may be underestimated prior to 2005 due to suspected gang-related incidents that were excluded from the figures.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

Gang-related homicides decreased across most regions in Canada in 2013, with the exception of British Columbia (+7) and Manitoba (+3). As a result, these two provinces reported the highest rates of gang-related homicide: 0.63 per 100,000 population in Manitoba and 0.59 per 100,000 population in British Columbia. Similar to the overall trend in homicide, Quebec reported the largest decrease in gang-related homicide (-8), followed by Ontario (-7).

The decline in gang-related homicide was noted across most CMAs, with the largest declines reported in Saskatoon (3 fewer victims of gang-related homicides), followed by Halifax, Québec, Montréal, Ottawa, Thunder Bay, and Calgary (each with 2 fewer). In contrast, Kelowna and Vancouver each reported two more victims of gang-related homicide in 2013 than in 2012. Twelve of Canada's 34 CMAs reported at least one gang-related homicide in 2013, with Kelowna (1.08 per 100,000 population) reporting the highest rate (Table 7). Unlike homicide in general, rates of gang-related homicide tend to be higher in CMAs than in non-CMAs, and this continued to be the case in 2013.

Gang-related homicides also tend to involve firearms more frequently than non-gang-related homicides. In 2013, 71% of gang-related homicides were committed with a firearm, compared with 15% of non-gang-related homicides.<sup>9</sup> In total, there were 60 gang-related homicides committed with a firearm in 2013, 83% of which were committed with a handgun.

Majority of solved homicides are solved within the first week of coming to the attention of police

Of the homicides that came to the attention of police in 2013, about three-quarters (76%) were solved. This proportion is equal to the previous ten-year average (76%). Homicides can be solved by police through the laying or recommendation of charges against an accused person, by the suicide of the accused person, or through other means (for example, death of the accused by means other than suicide). In 2013, nine in ten (91%) solved homicides resulted in charges being laid or recommended, while the remainder were cleared by suicide of the accused (8%) or through other means (2%).<sup>10</sup>

The proportion of homicides that were solved varied by province and territory in 2013. In Newfoundland and Labrador (7 homicides), Prince Edward Island (1 homicide), New Brunswick (7 homicides), the Northwest Territories (2 homicides), and Nunavut (4 homicides), all homicides which came to the attention of police in 2013 were solved. In addition, the proportion of solved homicides was above the national average in Manitoba (92%) and Saskatchewan (97%), the provinces with the

highest homicide rates in 2013. In contrast, the proportion of solved homicides was lowest in British Columbia (42%) and Quebec (69%), a trend which has been noted over the past 20 years (Trussler 2010).<sup>11</sup>

The likelihood of a homicide being solved by police is influenced by a number of factors. For example, previous research has shown that homicides involving gangs, firearms, or the illegal drug trade are less likely to be solved by police (Armstrong et al. 2013; Hotton Mahony and Turner 2012; Trussler 2010). In 2013, this trend continued, as gang-related homicides were less likely to be solved than non-gang related homicides (32% compared to 89%), homicides committed with a firearm were less likely to be solved than homicides not involving firearms (53% compared to 88%), and those related to the illegal drug trade were less frequently solved than those that were not related (55% compared to 85%).

In addition, police-reported data indicate that the majority of solved homicides are solved within seven days of occurring.<sup>12</sup> In total, nearly seven in ten (69%) were solved within one week, while a further 26% were solved between 8 and 364 days. The remainder (5%) were solved one year or more after the incident occurred. Of homicides which occurred and were solved since 2003, the median<sup>13</sup> length of time between a homicide occurring and police solving the incident is two days.

Some of the factors which can influence the likelihood of police solving a homicide can also influence the length of time between the homicide occurring and being solved by police. Homicides related to the illegal drug trade had a longer median length of time between the homicide occurring and being solved (7 days), as did gang-related homicides (6 days). Firearm-related homicides were similar to homicides that were not committed using a firearm, with each reporting a median of 2 days between the incident occurring and being solved. However, solved gang-related homicides that were committed with the use of a firearm had a median of 16.5 days between occurring and being solved by police.

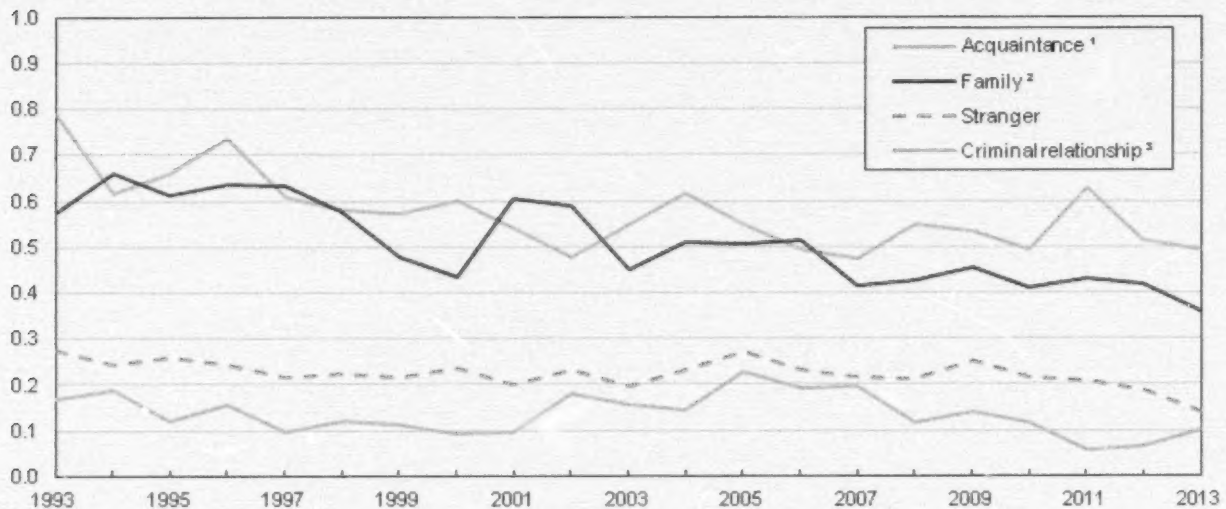
### Homicides committed by strangers decrease

As has been the case historically, most solved homicides in 2013 were committed by acquaintances or family members of the victim (Chart 7).<sup>14</sup> While the rates of both acquaintance homicide and family homicide decreased for the second consecutive year, they continued to be substantially higher than the rates of homicides committed by strangers or those committed in the context of a criminal relationship.<sup>15</sup>



**Chart 7**  
**Solved homicides, by accused-victim relationship, Canada, 1993 to 2013**

rate per 100,000  
 population



1. Includes casual acquaintances, close friends, current and former boyfriends/girlfriends and other non-spousal intimate relationships, neighbours, business relationships (legal), and authority figures.

2. Includes current and former spouses (legal, common-law, same-sex and opposite-sex), parents and children (including biological, adopted, step, and foster relationships), siblings, and other extended family members.

3. Includes, for example, sex workers, drug dealers and their clients, loan sharks, or gang members. Although prostitution is not illegal in Canada, many acts related to sex work are prohibited, such as public communication for the purpose of prostitution, living off the avails of prostitution, and operating or using a bawdy house. It should be noted that some gang-related homicides may have been scored as "acquaintance". When more than one relationship applies (e.g. criminal relationship and close friend), police are asked to report the primary relationship.

**Note:** Collection of data on accused-victim relationship began in 1961, with modifications made to relationship categories in 1997, and 2005. Analysis of accused-victim relationship is based on solved homicides (i.e., homicides for which an accused person has been identified by police).

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

Overall, most victims of violent crime know the accused, which is also the case for victims of homicide. In 2013, nearly nine in ten (87%) solved homicides were committed by someone known to the victim, while the remainder (13%) were committed by a stranger (Table 8). In total, there were 49 homicides committed by a stranger in 2013, 16 fewer than the previous year and 25 fewer than the average over the past ten years. As a result of the decrease, the 2013 rate of homicides committed by a stranger (0.14 per 100,000 population) was at its lowest point in over 40 years, since comparable data became available.

In contrast to the decline in stranger homicides, homicides committed by acquaintances remained relatively stable in 2013. There were 149 victims of homicide committed by an acquaintance in 2013, below the average over the past 10 years (158). Similarly, there were 82 victims of non-spousal family relationships (i.e., parent, child, sibling, or extended family)<sup>16</sup> in 2013, which was virtually equal to the average over the past 10 years (81).

Homicides involving criminal relationships<sup>17</sup> were one of the few categories to increase, with 36 such homicides in 2013 compared to 23 in 2012. This increase was almost entirely the result of an increase in Ontario (12 more victims). Despite the increase, the number of victims killed in the context of a criminal relationship remained below the average over the past 10 years (46).

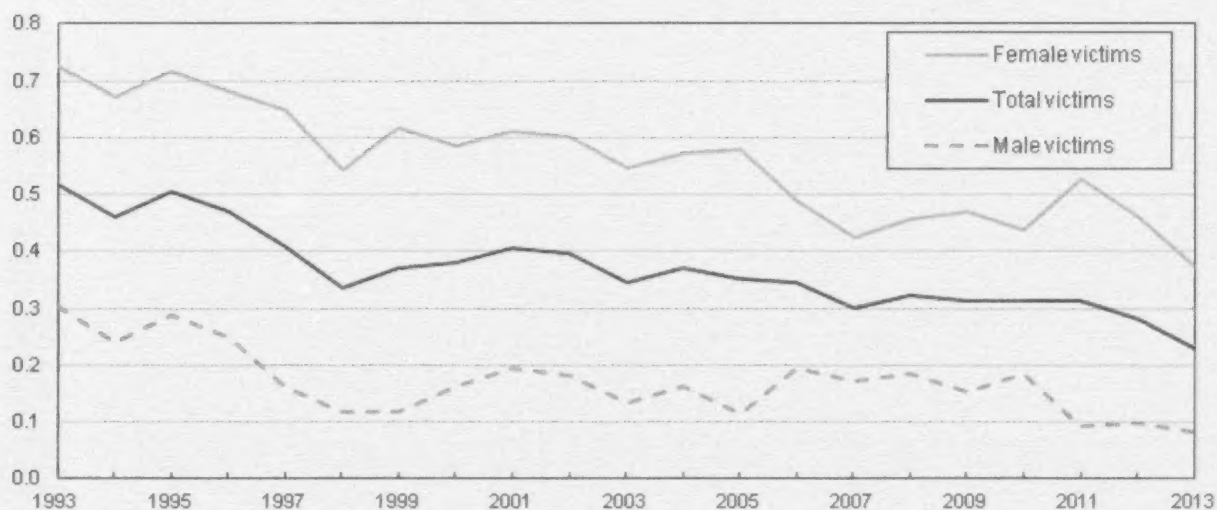
### One in five solved homicides committed by an intimate partner

Previous research has shown that approximately one-quarter of violent offences are committed by an intimate partner, which includes current and former spouses (legal and common-law), current and former dating partners, and other intimate relationships (Sinha 2013). In 2013, 18% of solved homicides were committed by an intimate partner.

There were 68 intimate partner homicides in 2013, 14 fewer than the previous year. Of these victims, 56 – or 82% – were female, as females continued to have higher rates of intimate partner homicide than males (Chart 8). In 2013, there were 0.37 female victims of intimate partner homicide for every 100,000 females (age 15 and over), a rate that was five times that of males (0.08 per 100,000 males age 15 and over).

**Chart 8**  
**Intimate partner homicides, by sex of victim, Canada, 1993 to 2013**

rate per 100,000  
population aged 15  
and over



**Note:** Includes current and former spouses (married, common-law, same-sex, and opposite-sex), as well as persons in dating and other intimate relationships. Excludes a small number of dating partners and other intimate relationships where the victim was under 15 years of age. Collection of data on accused-victim relationship began in 1961, with modifications made to relationship categories in 1991, 1997, and 2005.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

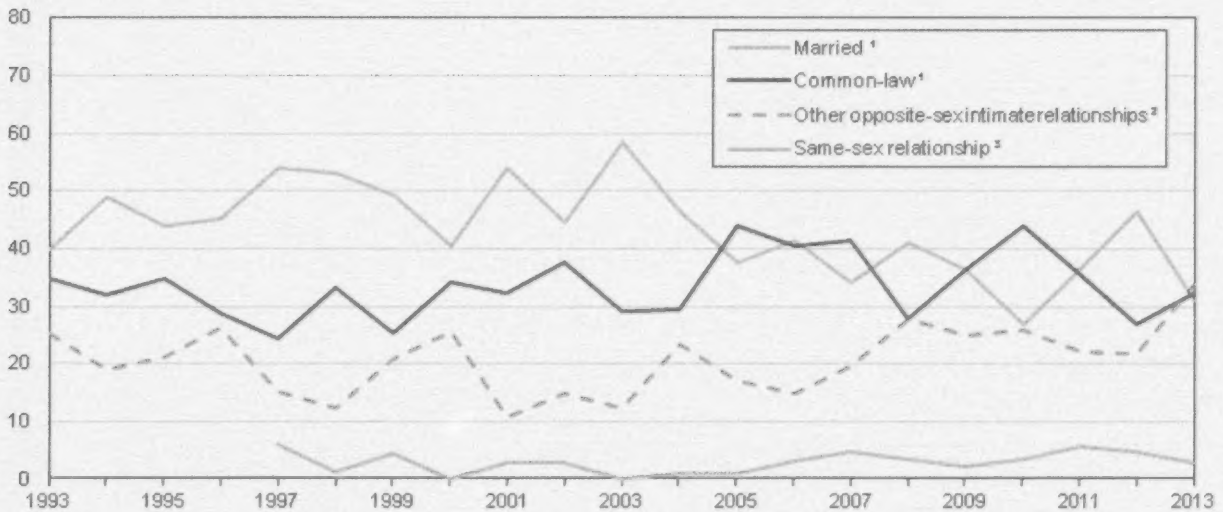
There have been notable decreases in intimate partner homicides for both male and female victims over the past two decades. The 2013 intimate partner homicide rate for males was 73% lower than it was in 1993, while the rate for females declined by nearly half (-48%) over the same period of time. Research has shown that these decreases may be related to a number of factors, such as increased community-based support, resources, and services, improved training of police officers, and social and economic changes such as delayed marriage and/or childbirth, rising income levels, and increased labour force participation rates for women (Dawson, Pottie Bunge and Balde 2009; Johnson 2006).

Over the past 20 years, intimate partner homicides have most frequently been committed by legal or common-law spouses. In 2013, for the first time, homicides committed by those in other intimate relationships (i.e. current and former dating partners or other intimate relationships) accounted for a virtually equal proportion of intimate partner homicides compared to legal or common-law spousal relationships (Chart 9). About one-third of intimate partner homicides were committed by other intimate partners (34%), common law partners (32%), and legally married spouses (31%), while the remainder (3%) were committed by a same-sex partner.

Chart 9

## Intimate partner homicides, by relationship type, Canada, 1993 to 2013

percent of intimate partner homicides



1. Includes current and former opposite-sex spouses. Excludes same-sex spouses as the Homicide Survey does not currently collect information on the legal status of same-sex unions.

2. Includes opposite-sex dating relationships (current and former) and other opposite-sex intimate relationships. For the purposes of this chart, same-sex dating relationships, which are typically included in the category of other intimate relationship, have been removed and are included in the category of same-sex relationship.

3. Collection of this variable began in 1997. The Homicide Survey does not currently collect information on the legal status of same-sex unions. Therefore, the same-sex relationship category includes both current and former legal spouses, common-law partners, as well as dating and other intimate relationships.

**Note:** Collection of data on accused-victim relationship began in 1961, with modifications made to relationship categories in 1991, 1997, and 2005. Excludes a small number of dating partners and other intimate relationships where the victim was under 15 years of age.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

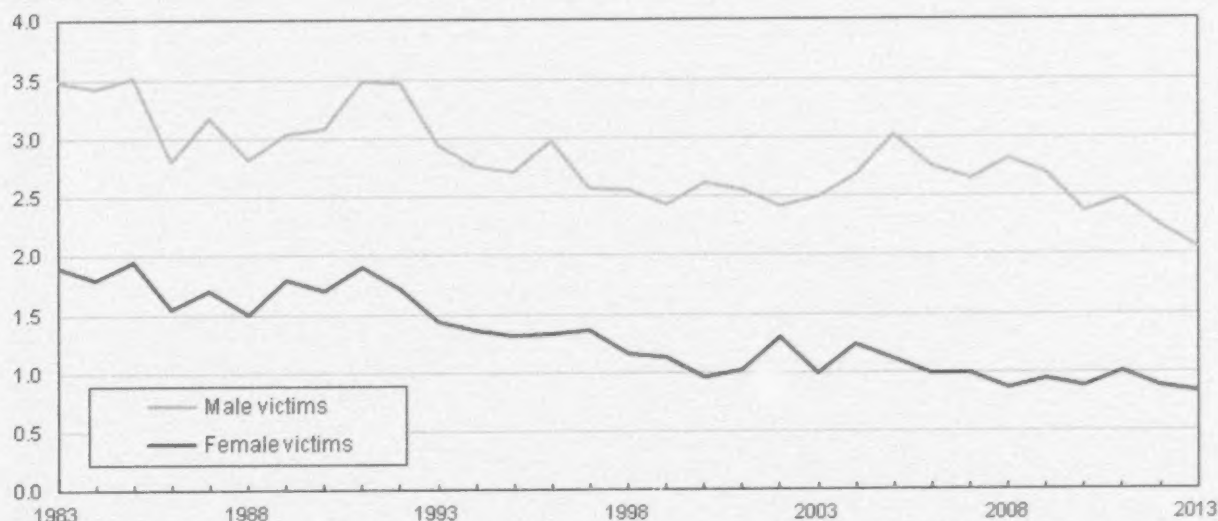
The decline in intimate partner homicides recorded in 2013 was entirely the result of a decrease in the number of homicides committed by a current or former legally married spouse. There were 17 fewer such victims in 2013. In contrast, there was an increase in homicides committed by other intimate partners (+4) and the number of homicides committed by a current or former common-law spouse was unchanged.

### Both victims and persons accused of homicide are typically male

Consistent with historical trends, the majority of homicide victims and accused persons in 2013 were male. About 7 in 10 (71%) homicide victims were male, as were about 9 in 10 (88%) accused persons (Chart 10; Table 9).

**Chart 10**  
**Homicides, by sex of victim, Canada, 1983 to 2013**

rate per 100,000  
population

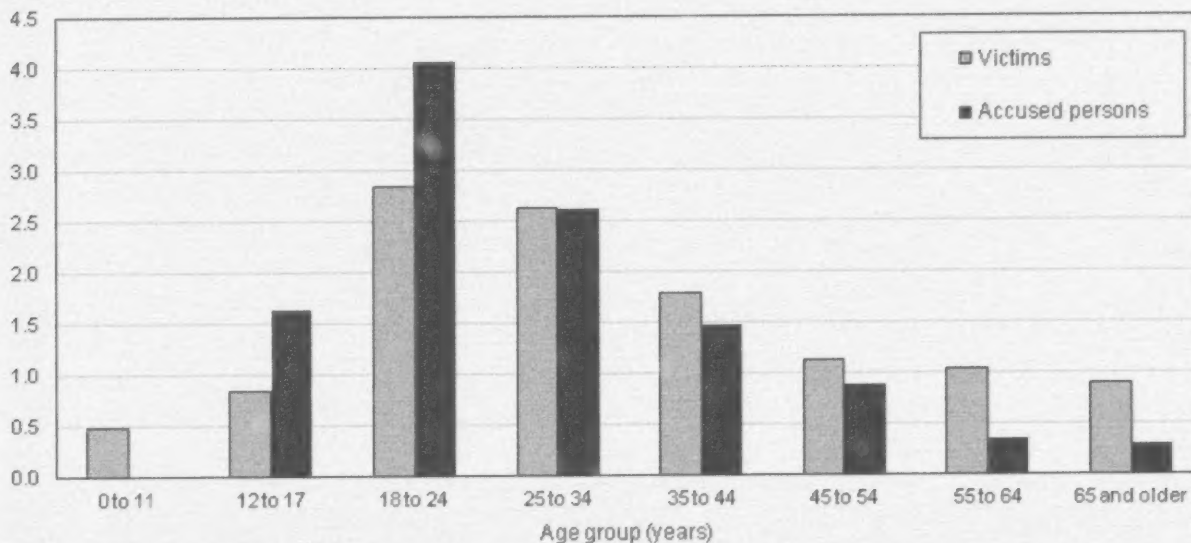


Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

Those at highest risk of becoming a victim or of being accused of homicide in 2013 were persons aged 18 to 24 years (2.85 victims and 4.06 accused persons per 100,000 population aged 18 to 24). Beyond the 18 to 24 year old age group, rates for both homicide victims and those accused of homicide decreased with age (Chart 11).

**Chart 11**  
**Homicide victims and accused persons, by age group, Canada, 2013**

rate per 100,000  
population



**Note:** Excludes accused persons under the age of 12. Children under the age of 12 cannot be held criminally responsible for homicide, or any other criminal offence, in Canada.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.



In addition, more than half (54%) of all persons accused of homicide in 2013 had previously been convicted of a criminal offence. Of those previously convicted, more than two-thirds (68%) had been convicted of a prior violent offence. Of the remaining accused with a prior conviction, 10% had been convicted of a drug offence, 9% of a property offence, and 13% of another *Criminal Code* offence or federal or provincial statute offence. In 2013, eight accused persons, who were involved in nine separate homicide incidents, had a prior conviction for homicide. They accounted for 4% of all accused persons with a prior conviction.

### Homicides related to the victim's profession decrease slightly

Since 1997, the Homicide Survey has collected information on the victim's primary occupation, including both legal and illegal professions. Police are asked to indicate whether or not the victim's occupation was in some way connected to their death.

There were 78 homicides related to the victim's profession in 2013, four fewer than the previous year. The majority (95%) of homicides related to the victim's profession in 2013 were linked to illicit activities, such as drug trafficking or sex work.<sup>18</sup> While the number of victims of homicide related to an illegal occupation increased in 2013, from 68 victims to 74, it remained below the previous ten-year average (90). Of the 74 victims, 12 were sex workers, 7 more than the previous year.

In total, four victims of homicide were killed due to their legal profession, ten fewer than in 2012 and less than half of the average over the past ten years (11). Among legal professions, previous research has indicated that police officers and taxi drivers are among the professions most at-risk of homicide due to their occupation (Perreault 2012). In 2013, one police officer and one taxi driver were victims of homicide due to their profession.

#### Text box 3

##### Missing and murdered Aboriginal women

In 2014, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) published a report on missing and murdered Aboriginal women in Canada (Royal Canadian Mounted Police 2014). In preparing the report, the RCMP combined data from 1980 to 2012 from the Homicide Survey with its own data on Aboriginal identity and data on Aboriginal identity from other police services. The Homicide Survey data were provided by Statistics Canada with the agreement of police services to share their data and with the necessary safeguards in place to protect confidentiality.

In total, the report found there were 1,017 Aboriginal female victims of homicide between 1980 and 2012, accounting for 16% of all female homicide victims over that period. In 2011, 4% of the total female population identified as an Aboriginal person. According to the report, between 1980 and 2012, the number of Aboriginal female victims remained relatively stable from one year to the next, while the number of non-Aboriginal female victims decreased. As a result, among homicides with a female victim, the proportion of homicides with an Aboriginal female victim has increased (Royal Canadian Mounted Police 2014).

Statistics Canada is working with the RCMP and other police services to update its database with the supplementary data the RCMP used for the report and to continue to receive this data for subsequent years.

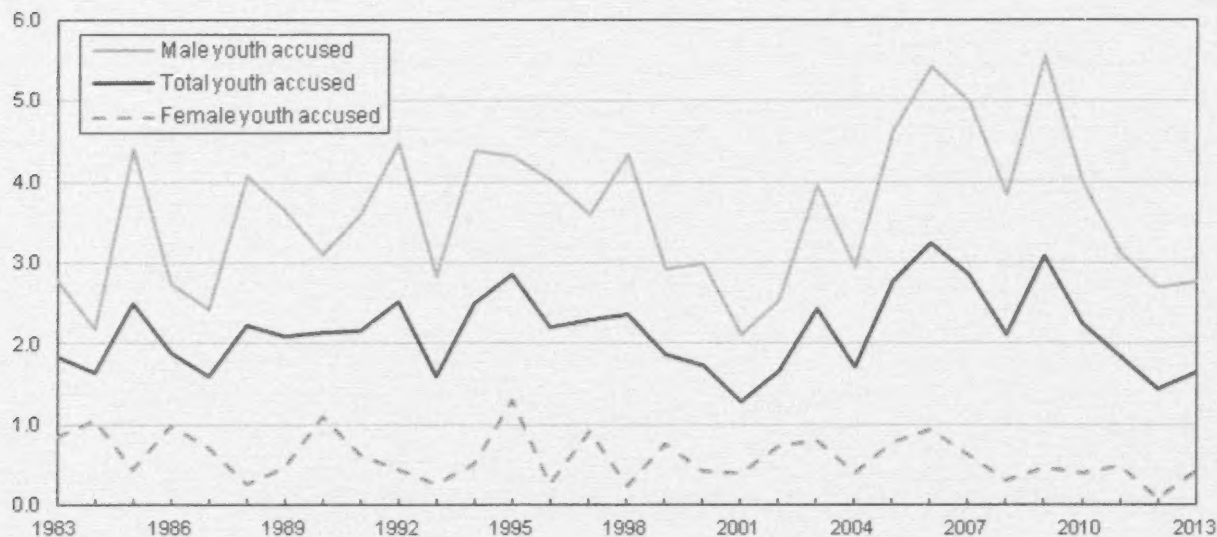
For more information on missing and murdered Aboriginal women in Canada, see *Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women: A National Operational Overview* (Royal Canadian Mounted Police 2014).

### Slight increase in youth accused of homicide in 2013

After reaching its lowest point in more than 10 years in 2012, the rate of youth accused of homicide increased 14% in 2013, to 1.63 for every 100,000 youth (ages 12 to 17) (Table 10, Chart 12). There were 39 youth accused of homicide in 2013, 4 more than the previous year. This increase was driven entirely by female youth, as there were 5 female youth accused of homicide in 2013 compared to 1 in 2012. Despite the increase, the number of female youth accused of homicide in 2013 was still below the average over the previous ten years (7). Consistent with historical trends, the majority of youth accused of homicide were male.

**Chart 12****Youth (12 to 17 years) accused of homicide, by sex, Canada, 1983 to 2013**

rate per 100,000 youth  
population  
(12 to 17 years)



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

While youth accounted for 9% of all persons accused of homicide in 2013, some characteristics of homicides involving youth accused differed from those involving adult accused. For example, 30% of youth accused of homicide were accused in a gang-related incident, compared to 9% of adults. In addition, similar to findings for persons accused of crime more broadly (Carrington et al. 2013), youth accused of homicide were more likely than adults to be accused of a homicide involving at least one other accused person (38% compared to 28%).<sup>19</sup>

Since 2003, there have been 7 children (under the age of 12) accused of homicide in Canada. While a small number of children have been accused of homicide over this period, it is important to note that, in Canada, children under the age of 12 cannot be held criminally responsible for homicide, or any other criminal offence.<sup>20</sup>

**Text box 4****Murder-suicides in Canada**

Murder-suicides<sup>21</sup> represent a distinct form of homicide (Brennan and Boyce 2013; Liem 2010). Of all homicides solved by police since 2003, 1 in 10 (8%) have involved the subsequent suicide of the accused person. Over this period, there have been 327 incidents of murder-suicide in Canada, resulting in the deaths of 392 victims and 330 accused persons.

Compared with homicides cleared by other means,<sup>22</sup> murder-suicides are more likely than other solved homicides to involve a female victim (79% compared to 28%), to be family-related (75% compared to 29%), and to involve more than one victim (15% compared to 3%). In addition, the median age of persons accused of murder-suicide since 2003 is 45 years, almost double the median age of persons accused of other homicides (25 years).

**One in five persons accused of homicide suspected of having a mental or developmental disorder**

Since 1997, the Homicide Survey has collected information on the suspected presence of mental or developmental disorders<sup>23</sup> among persons accused of homicide. It is important to note that this information is based on the perception of the investigating officer and does not necessarily reflect a medical or clinical diagnosis.

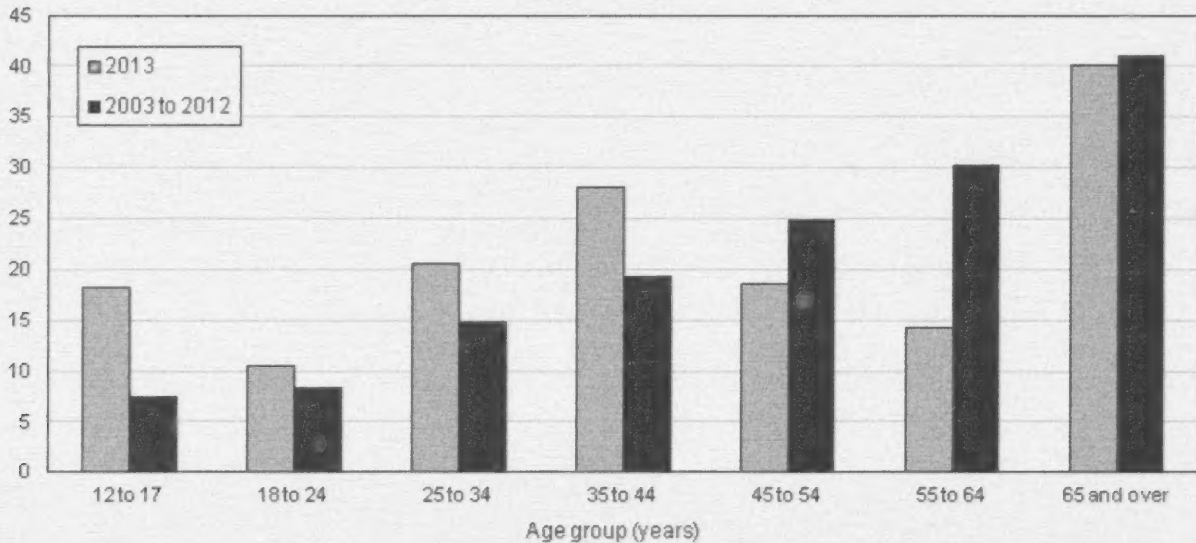
In 2013, police suspected that 75 persons accused of homicide had a mental or developmental disorder, accounting for approximately one in five (19%) accused persons.<sup>24</sup> While this was the same proportion of accused persons as in 2012, it was higher than the average over the previous ten years (15%).

Over the last decade, the proportion of accused persons who had or were suspected of having a mental or developmental disorder tended to increase with age. In 2013, consistent with the past ten years, the proportion of accused persons who had or were suspected of having a mental or developmental disorder was highest among those aged 65 and older (Chart 13).

**Chart 13**

**Persons accused of homicide with a suspected mental or developmental disorder, by age group, Canada, 2013**

percent of accused persons



**Note:** Includes persons with a suspected mental or developmental disorder as a proportion of all accused within each age category. Excludes accused persons for which age or information on suspected mental or developmental disorder was unknown. In 2013, information on suspected mental or developmental disorder was unknown for 13% of accused persons.

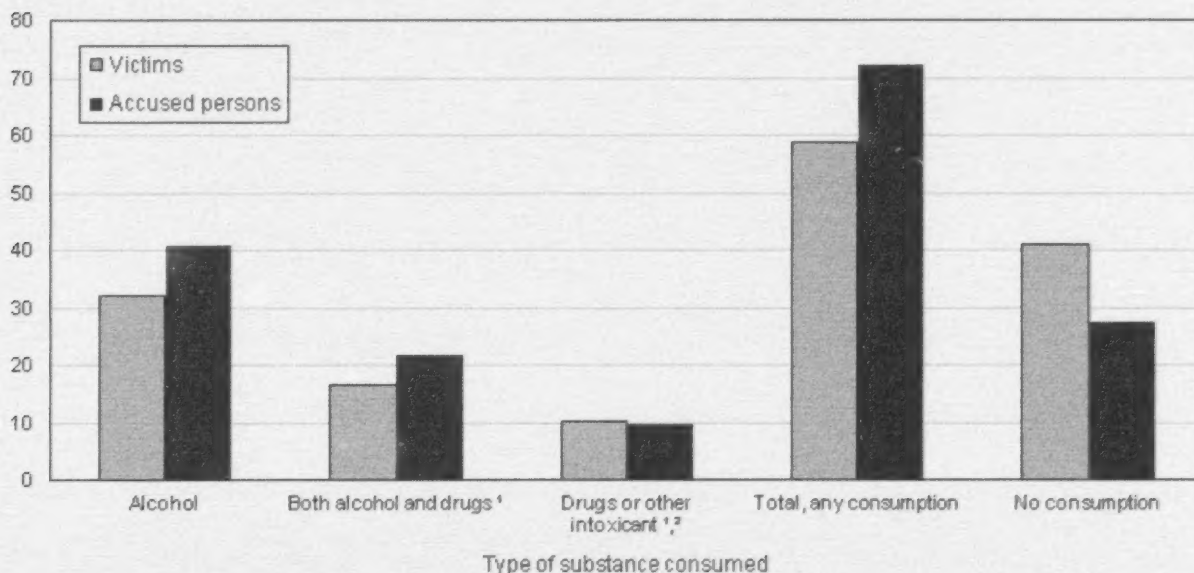
**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

### Three-quarters of accused persons under the influence of alcohol or drugs at the time of the homicide

Research suggests that violent crime, including homicide, may often be linked to the consumption of alcohol or drugs (Kuhns et al. 2013). Since 2003, alcohol and/or drug consumption has been a factor in the majority of homicides. Of all homicides where information on consumption of an intoxicating substance was known to police, just under six in ten victims (59%) and nearly three-quarters of accused persons (72%) were under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or another intoxicating substance<sup>25</sup> at the time of the incident (Chart 14).



Chart 14

**Homicide victims and accused persons, by consumption of an intoxicating substance, Canada, 2003 to 2013**percent of victims or  
accused persons

1. Drugs includes both legal and illegal substances.

2. Includes persons who had consumed an intoxicating substance other than alcohol or a conventional legal or illegal drug, such as glue, gas, aerosol, or other solvents. Also includes victims and accused persons who had consumed an unknown type of intoxicant.

**Note:** Excludes victims and accused persons for whom information on consumption of intoxicants was unknown. For the period 2003 to 2013, this information was unknown for 34% of accused persons and 29% of victims.**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

While the proportion of accused persons who had consumed an intoxicating substance was higher than that of victims, the types of substances consumed were similar. For both victims and accused persons, alcohol was the most common substance. About one-third of victims (32%) and four in ten accused persons (41%) were under the influence of alcohol at the time of the homicide, while a further 17% of victims and 22% of accused persons were under the influence of alcohol in addition to another type of drug. The consumption of drugs or other intoxicants alone was comparatively less frequent, as about 10% of both victims and accused persons were under the influence of drugs or other intoxicating substances not including alcohol.

In addition, since 2003, the most common motivation for persons accused of homicide has been an argument or quarrel, accounting for 37% of all homicides with known motives. Of these, the large majority (84%) involved an accused person who had consumed alcohol and/or drugs at the time of the incident.<sup>26</sup>

## Summary

There were 505 homicides in Canada in 2013, 38 fewer than the previous year. The homicide rate reached 1.44 per 100,000 population, its lowest point since 1966. The decline at the national level was the result of fewer homicides in Quebec, as the homicide rate in that province was the lowest ever reported. Homicide rates were highest in the West and in the North, with the exception of Yukon where there were no homicides for the third consecutive year.

While the firearm-related homicide rate was at the lowest point recorded by the Homicide Survey, police reported an increase in the rate of homicides committed by stabbing. These two methods continued to account for the majority of homicides in Canada.

As in previous years, most homicide victims were killed by someone they knew. There were 16 fewer homicides committed by strangers in 2013, resulting in the lowest stranger homicide rate reported since comparable data became available. In addition, there were 14 fewer intimate partner homicides in 2013. In contrast, there were 13 more homicides committed by someone known to the victim through a criminal relationship.



## Survey description

The Homicide Survey collects police-reported data on the characteristics of all homicide incidents, victims and accused persons in Canada. The Homicide Survey began collecting information on all murders in 1961 and was expanded in 1974 to include all incidents of manslaughter and infanticide. Although details on these incidents are not available prior to 1974, counts are available from the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey and are included in the historical aggregate totals.

Whenever a homicide becomes known to police, the investigating police service completes the survey questionnaires, which are then sent to Statistics Canada. There are cases where homicides become known to police months or years after they occurred. These incidents are counted in the year in which they become known to police. Information on persons accused of homicide are only available for solved incidents (i.e. where at least one accused has been identified). Accused characteristics are updated as homicide cases are solved and new information is submitted to the Homicide Survey. Information collected through the victim and incident questionnaires are also accordingly updated as a result of a case being solved. For incidents involving more than one accused, only the relationship between the victim and the closest accused is recorded.

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## Notes

1. In 2011, the most recent year for which data are available, there were 2,518 deaths that were the result of motor vehicle accidents and 3,728 that were the result of intentional self-harm or suicide.
2. Homicide counts and rates are based on the number of homicide victims reported by police. In other words, a homicide incident with two victims is counted as two homicides. See text box 2 for more information on homicide incidents in Canada and multiple-victim incidents.
3. Peer countries were determined using a methodology developed by the Conference Board of Canada. The Conference Board of Canada began by selecting countries deemed "high income" by the World Bank, then eliminated countries with a population less than one million, as well as countries smaller than 10,000 square kilometres. Of the remaining countries, the Conference Board of Canada used a five year average of real income per capita and eliminated any countries that fell below the mean. Based on this criteria, a total of 17 countries remained.
4. A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, other adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CMA typically comprises more than one police service.
5. Includes incidents with a family relationship between at least one victim and one accused.
6. Data on the accused-victim relationship in all homicides are presented in Table 7.
7. Excludes homicides where the type of firearm used was unknown.
8. A homicide is classified as gang-related when police confirm or suspect that the accused person and/or the victim involved in the homicide was either a member, or a prospective member, of an organized crime group or street gang or was somehow associated with an organized crime group or street gang, and the homicide was carried out as a result of this association. Prior to 2005, police were asked if the homicide was "gang-related". Beginning in 2005, the question was amended to give police the option of specifying whether the homicide was: (a) confirmed as gang-related or (b) suspected as being gang-related. As such, figures may be underestimated prior to 2005 due to suspected gang-related incidents that were excluded from the figures.
9. Excludes homicides where the cause of death was unknown or where it was unknown whether or not the homicide was gang-related.
10. Percentages do not add to 100% due to rounding.
11. Clearance rates may be impacted by different charging policies in different jurisdictions. Police lay charges in most provinces. In British Columbia and Quebec, the decision to lay charges is made by the Crown, while in New Brunswick, police lay charges after receiving advice from the Crown.

12. The number of days to clear (i.e. solve) the homicide is calculated based on the number of days between the date the homicide occurred and the date it was cleared by police. The Homicide Survey does not collect the date the incident was reported to police. As a result, data may include a number of cases in which police did not become aware of the homicide until significantly after it occurred.

13. The median is the point in the data series at which 50% are above and 50% are below.

14. Analysis of accused-victim relationship is based on solved homicides (i.e., homicides for which an accused person has been identified by police).

15. Includes, for example, sex workers, drug dealers and their clients, loan sharks, or gang members. When more than one relationship applies (i.e., criminal relationship and close friend), police are asked to report the primary relationship.

16. Includes biological, adopted, step, and foster relationships.

17. Includes, for example, sex workers, drug dealers and their clients, loansharks, or gang members. Although prostitution is not illegal in Canada, many acts related to sex work are prohibited, such as public communication for the purpose of prostitution, living off the avails of prostitution, and operating or using a bawdy house. It should be noted that some gang-related homicides may have been scored as "acquaintance". When more than one relationship applies (e.g. criminal relationship and close friend), police are asked to report the primary relationship.

18. Although prostitution is not illegal in Canada, many acts related to sex work are prohibited, such as public communication for the purpose of prostitution, living off the avails of prostitution, and operating or using a bawdy house.

19. Gang-related and co-offending can differ somewhat, in that a gang is a structured group of adolescents, young adults, and/or adults who use intimidation and violence to commit criminal acts on a regular basis, in order to obtain power and recognition and/or control specific areas of criminal activities. Co-offending does not necessarily involve regular offending behaviour or the existence of a structured group.

20. See *Criminal Code*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-34, s. 13.

21. For the purposes of this analysis, murder-suicide also includes incidents of manslaughter or infanticide cleared by the suicide of the accused.

22. For example, cleared through the laying or recommendation of charges or cleared otherwise (i.e., by the death of the accused other than suicide).

23. The investigating officer's perception of the presence of a mental or developmental disorder of the accused (e.g. schizophrenia, manic depression, dementia, developmental delays, or fetal alcohol syndrome). This variable is not meant to be used as a diagnostic tool. It is based upon an investigating officer's subjective perception and not necessarily a medical diagnosis.

24. Excludes accused persons for which information on suspected mental or developmental disorder was unknown. In 2013, this information was unknown for 13% of accused persons.

25. Includes glue, gas, aerosol, or other solvents. Also includes victims and accused persons who had consumed an unknown type of intoxicant.

26. For 24% of accused persons who were motivated by an argument or quarrel, information on whether or not they had consumed an intoxicating substance was unknown.



## Detailed data tables

Table 1a

Number of homicides, by province or territory, 1983 to 2013

Year	number of victims														Difference in Canada number from previous year
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C. <sup>1</sup>	Y.T.	N.W.T. <sup>2</sup>	Nvt.	Canada	
1983	6	0	13	11	190	202	40	33	75	108	1	3	...	682	15
1984	6	0	15	14	198	190	43	30	54	110	2	5	...	667	-15
1985 <sup>3</sup>	5	1	26	14	219	193	26	28	63	113	6	10	...	704	37
1986	4	0	15	12	156	139	47	26	64	89	3	14	...	569	-135
1987	5	0	14	20	174	204	44	30	73	78	0	2	...	644	75
1988	7	1	11	8	154	186	31	23	66	80	1	8	...	576	-68
1989	5	1	16	18	215	175	43	22	67	86	2	7	...	657	81
1990	0	1	9	12	184	182	39	36	74	110	1	12	...	660	3
1991	10	2	21	17	181	245	42	21	84	128	0	3	...	754	94
1992	2	0	21	11	166	242	29	32	92	122	2	13	...	732	-22
1993	7	2	19	11	159	192	31	30	49	120	0	7	...	627	-105
1994	4	1	19	15	126	192	29	24	66	113	3	4	...	596	-31
1995	5	1	17	14	135	181	27	21	60	120	4	3	...	588	-8
1996	7	1	18	9	154	187	45	32	53	125	0	4	...	635	47
1997	7	0	24	8	132	178	31	25	61	116	1	3	...	586	-49
1998	7	1	24	5	137	156	33	33	64	90	3	5	...	558	-28
1999	2	1	13	9	137	162	26	13	61	110	1	1	2	538	-20
2000	6	3	15	10	150	156	30	26	59	85	2	1	3	546	8
2001	1	2	9	8	140	170	34	27	70	84	1	4	3	553	7
2002	2	1	9	9	118	178	36	27	70	126	0	4	2	582	29
2003	5	1	8	8	99	178	43	41	64	94	1	4	3	549	-33
2004	2	0	14	7	111	187	50	39	86	113	7	4	4	624	75
2005	11	0	20	9	100	219	49	43	108	101	1	0	2	663	39
2006	7	1	16	7	93	196	39	42	95	108	0	0	2	606	-57
2007	3	0	13	8	90	202	61	30	88	88	2	2	7	594	-12
2008	5	2	12	3	92	176	54	30	110	117	3	3	4	611	17
2009	1	0	15	12	88	178	57	36	95	118	2	2	6	610	-1
2010	4	0	21	9	84	189	45	34	77	83	1	1	6	554	-56
2011	4	1	22	8	105	161	53	38	109	87	0	3	7	598	44
2012	3	0	17	6	108	162	52	29	85	71	0	5	5	543	-55
2013	7	1	13	7	68	166	49	30	82	76	0	2	4	505	-38

... not applicable

1. As a result of investigations in Port Coquitlam, B.C., there were 5 homicides reported in 2007, 5 reported in 2004, 7 reported in 2003, and 15 included in 2002 that occurred in previous years.

2. Includes Nunavut prior to 1999.

3. Excludes 329 victims in the Air India incident.

**Note:** There may be a small number of homicides included in a given year's total that occurred in previous years. Homicides are counted according to the year in which they are reported to Statistics Canada.**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.



Table 1b  
Rate of homicides, by province or territory, 1983 to 2013

	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C. <sup>1</sup>	Y.T.	N.W.T. <sup>2</sup>	Nvt.	Canada	Percent change in rate for Canada from previous year
Year	rate <sup>3</sup>														
1983	1.04	0.00	1.50	1.54	2.88	2.23	3.77	3.29	3.14	3.72	4.23	5.88	...	2.69	1.2
1984	1.03	0.00	1.71	1.94	2.99	2.07	4.01	2.95	2.26	3.73	8.36	9.51	...	2.60	-3.1
1985 <sup>4</sup>	0.86	0.78	2.94	1.93	3.29	2.08	2.40	2.73	2.62	3.80	24.63	18.38	...	2.72	4.6
1986	0.69	0.00	1.69	1.65	2.33	1.47	4.31	2.53	2.63	2.96	12.26	25.60	...	2.18	-20.0
1987	0.87	0.00	1.57	2.75	2.57	2.12	4.01	2.90	3.00	2.56	0.00	3.63	...	2.43	11.7
1988	1.22	0.77	1.23	1.10	2.25	1.89	2.81	2.24	2.69	2.57	3.76	14.37	...	2.15	-11.7
1989	0.87	0.77	1.77	2.45	3.10	1.73	3.90	2.16	2.69	2.69	7.38	12.27	...	2.41	12.0
1990	0.00	0.77	0.99	1.62	2.63	1.77	3.53	3.57	2.91	3.34	3.60	20.37	...	2.38	-1.1
1991	1.73	1.53	2.29	2.28	2.56	2.35	3.79	2.09	3.24	3.79	0.00	4.92	...	2.69	12.9
1992	0.34	0.00	2.28	1.47	2.34	2.29	2.61	3.19	3.49	3.52	6.64	20.86	...	2.58	-4.1
1993	1.21	1.51	2.06	1.47	2.22	1.80	2.77	2.98	1.84	3.36	0.00	11.04	...	2.19	-15.3
1994	0.70	0.75	2.05	2.00	1.75	1.77	2.58	2.38	2.44	3.07	10.10	6.15	...	2.06	-6.0
1995	0.88	0.74	1.83	1.86	1.87	1.65	2.39	2.07	2.19	3.18	13.14	4.52	...	2.01	-2.4
1996	1.25	0.74	1.93	1.20	2.13	1.69	3.97	3.14	1.91	3.23	0.00	5.93	...	2.14	6.9
1997	1.27	0.00	2.57	1.06	1.81	1.59	2.73	2.46	2.16	2.94	3.15	4.44	...	1.96	-8.6
1998	1.30	0.74	2.58	0.67	1.88	1.37	2.90	3.24	2.21	2.26	9.63	7.44	...	1.85	-5.6
1999	0.37	0.73	1.39	1.20	1.87	1.41	2.28	1.28	2.07	2.74	3.25	2.46	7.46	1.77	-4.4
2000	1.14	2.20	1.61	1.33	2.04	1.34	2.61	2.58	1.96	2.10	6.57	2.47	10.91	1.78	0.5
2001	0.19	1.46	0.97	1.07	1.89	1.43	2.95	2.70	2.29	2.06	3.32	9.79	10.66	1.78	0.2
2002	0.38	0.73	0.96	1.20	1.59	1.47	3.11	2.71	2.24	3.07	0.00	9.60	6.94	1.86	4.1
2003	0.96	0.73	0.85	1.07	1.32	1.45	3.69	4.11	2.01	2.28	3.23	9.40	10.23	1.74	-6.5
2004	0.39	0.00	1.49	0.93	1.47	1.51	4.26	3.91	2.65	2.72	22.24	9.24	13.40	1.95	12.6
2005	2.14	0.00	2.13	1.20	1.32	1.75	4.16	4.33	3.25	2.41	3.13	0.00	6.59	2.06	5.3
2006	1.37	0.73	1.71	0.94	1.22	1.55	3.30	4.23	2.78	2.55	0.00	0.00	6.49	1.86	-9.5
2007	0.59	0.00	1.39	1.07	1.17	1.58	5.13	2.99	2.50	2.05	6.14	4.61	22.30	1.81	-2.9
2008	0.98	1.44	1.28	0.40	1.19	1.37	4.51	2.95	3.06	2.69	9.07	6.92	12.54	1.84	1.8
2009	0.19	0.00	1.60	1.60	1.12	1.37	4.72	3.48	2.58	2.68	5.93	4.64	18.40	1.81	-1.3
2010	0.77	0.00	2.23	1.20	1.06	1.44	3.69	3.23	2.06	1.86	2.89	2.31	17.99	1.63	-10.2
2011	0.76	0.69	2.33	1.06	1.31	1.21	4.30	3.56	2.88	1.93	0.00	6.90	20.47	1.74	6.9
2012	0.57	0.00	1.80	0.79	1.34	1.21	4.16	2.67	2.19	1.56	0.00	11.46	14.41	1.56	-10.3
2013	1.33	0.69	1.38	0.93	0.83	1.23	3.87	2.71	2.04	1.66	0.00	4.59	11.24	1.44	-8.1

... not applicable

1. As a result of investigations in Port Coquitlam, B.C., there were 5 homicides reported in 2007, 5 reported in 2004, 7 reported in 2003, and 15 included in 2002 that occurred in previous years.

2. Includes Nunavut prior to 1999.

3. Rates are calculated per 100,000 population using revised July 1st population estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

4. Excludes 329 victims in the Air India incident.

**Note:** There may be a small number of homicides included in a given year's total that occurred in previous years. Homicides are counted according to the year in which they are reported to Statistics Canada.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

Table 2  
Homicides, by census metropolitan area, 2012 and 2013

Census metropolitan area <sup>1</sup>	2013			2012 <sup>†</sup>		Average 2003 to 2012	
	population	number of victims	rate <sup>2</sup>	number of victims	rate <sup>2</sup>	number of victims	rate <sup>2</sup>
Regina	234,426	9	3.84	7	3.07	8	3.72
Winnipeg	802,273	26	3.24	33	4.17	28	3.84
Thunder Bay <sup>3</sup>	121,763	3	2.46	7	5.83	3	2.44
Edmonton <sup>4</sup>	1,290,932	27	2.09	33	2.65	36	3.20
Hamilton	734,389	15	2.04	6	0.83	9	1.24
London <sup>5</sup>	500,949	9	1.80	8	1.61	7	1.43
Calgary	1,375,123	24	1.75	19	1.45	22	1.91
Vancouver <sup>3</sup>	2,443,887	42	1.72	37	1.54	51	2.24
Abbotsford–Mission	177,298	3	1.69	4	2.27	5	2.99
Saskatoon <sup>3</sup>	299,190	5	1.67	6	2.08	8	2.89
Kelowna <sup>6</sup>	185,168	3	1.62	3	1.62	3	1.85
Gatineau <sup>7</sup>	323,084	5	1.55	6	1.88	4	1.21
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	534,762	8	1.50	4	0.76	5	0.91
St. John's	202,602	3	1.48	0	0.00	1	0.75
Halifax	408,714	6	1.47	12	2.95	10	2.46
Barrie <sup>6</sup>	207,972	3	1.44	2	0.97	2	0.94
Saint John	146,107	2	1.37	2	1.36	1	0.90
St. Catharines–Niagara	445,351	6	1.35	3	0.68	5	1.23
Toronto	5,905,031	79	1.34	81	1.39	94	1.73
Montréal <sup>3, 5</sup>	3,986,346	43	1.08	47	1.19	52	1.39
Oshawa	412,830	4	0.97	3	0.76	3	0.87
Ottawa <sup>8</sup>	974,307	9	0.92	7	0.73	11	1.25
Brantford <sup>6</sup>	142,084	1	0.70	0	0.00	1	1.03
Trois-Rivières	154,351	1	0.65	2	1.30	1	0.81
Kingston <sup>5</sup>	163,969	1	0.61	0	0.00	2	1.33
Greater Sudbury	164,983	1	0.61	1	0.61	2	1.22
Windsor	330,108	2	0.61	3	0.91	4	1.30
Québec	785,838	3	0.38	6	0.77	5	0.62
Victoria	357,416	1	0.28	4	1.13	4	1.25
Moncton <sup>6</sup>	143,388	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0.84
Saguenay	167,775	0	0.00	4	2.39	1	0.93
Sherbrooke	194,678	0	0.00	1	0.52	1	0.40
Peterborough <sup>6</sup>	121,576	0	0.00	2	1.65	1	1.19
Guelph <sup>6</sup>	128,573	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0.58
<b>CMA total</b>	<b>24,567,243</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>1.40</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>1.46</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>1.73</b>
<b>Non-CMA total<sup>3, 5</sup></b>	<b>10,591,061</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>1.52</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>1.80</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>1.93</b>
<b>Canada</b>	<b>35,158,304</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>1.44</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>1.56</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>1.80</b>

<sup>†</sup> revised

1. A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, other adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CMA typically comprises more than one police service.

2. Rates are calculated per 100,000 population using revised July 1st population estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

3. Includes one homicide committed in a correctional institution in 2012.

4. Includes two homicides committed in a correctional institution in 2013.

5. Includes one homicide committed in a correctional institution in 2013.

6. Moncton, Peterborough, Brantford, Guelph, Barrie, and Kelowna became CMAs in 2006. As such, the average number and rate are calculated from 2006 to 2012.

7. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.

8. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.

**Note:** There may be a small number of homicides included in a given year's total that occurred in previous years. Homicides are counted according to the year in which they are reported to Statistics Canada.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

Table 3  
Homicides, by type of method, Canada, 2003 to 2013

Year	Stabbing		Shooting		Beating		Strangulation or suffocation		Vehicle		Fire (smoke inhalation, burns)	
	number of victims	percent <sup>1</sup>	number of victims	percent <sup>1</sup>	number of victims	percent <sup>1</sup>	number of victims	percent <sup>1</sup>	number of victims	percent <sup>1</sup>	number of victims	percent <sup>1</sup>
2003	142	26.9	161	30.6	121	23.0	65	12.3	6	1.1	12	2.3
2004	205	33.6	173	28.3	137	22.4	63	10.3	6	1.0	13	2.1
2005	198	30.6	223	34.4	144	22.2	47	7.3	4	0.6	10	1.5
2006	210	35.4	190	32.0	119	20.1	48	8.1	9	1.5	12	2.0
2007	190	33.3	188	32.9	118	20.7	52	9.1	16	2.8	4	0.7
2008	201	33.7	201	33.7	123	20.6	45	7.5	9	1.5	7	1.2
2009	210	35.2	182	30.5	118	19.8	46	7.7	13	2.2	12	2.0
2010	165	30.8	171	31.9	116	21.6	42	7.8	17	3.2	11	2.1
2011	205	35.5	158	27.3	125	21.6	40	6.9	15	2.6	21	3.6
2012	164	31.2	172	32.7	112	21.3	42	8.0	7	1.3	17	3.2
2013	195	39.8	131	26.7	102	20.8	41	8.4	9	1.8	5	1.0

Year	Poisoning		Shaken Baby Syndrome <sup>2</sup>		Other <sup>3</sup>		Unknown		Total	
	number of victims	percent <sup>1</sup>	number of victims	percent <sup>1</sup>	number of victims	percent <sup>1</sup>	number of victims	percent <sup>1</sup>	number of victims	percent <sup>1</sup>
2003	6	1.1	8	1.5	6	1.1	22	...	549	100
2004	8	1.3	5	0.8	1	0.2	13	...	624	100
2005	7	1.1	12	1.9	3	0.5	15	...	663	100
2006	1	0.2	3	0.5	1	0.2	13	...	606	100
2007	0	0.0	2	0.4	1	0.2	23	...	594	100
2008	5	0.8	3	0.5	3	0.5	14	...	611	100
2009	9	1.5	4	0.7	2	0.3	14	...	610	100
2010	4	0.7	4	0.7	6	1.1	18	...	554	100
2011	3	0.5	4	0.7	7	1.2	20	...	598	100
2012	6	1.1	0	0.0	6	1.1	17	...	543	100
2013	4	0.8	0	0.0	3	0.6	15	...	505	100

... not applicable

1. Homicides where the cause of death was unknown were excluded from the calculation of percentages.

2. Includes all homicides committed against a child under the age of three years where the primary cause of death was the result of being shaken, tossed, or thrown.

3. Other includes exposure/hypothermia, starvation/dehydration, and other methods not otherwise specified.

**Note:** Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding. Figures prior to 2013 may differ from previously published figures due to ongoing updates to the data files as new information becomes available.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

Table 4

Homicides, by shootings and stabbings, by province or territory, 2013

Province or territory	Shootings					
	2013			Average 2003 to 2012		
	number of victims	rate <sup>1</sup>	percent of total homicides <sup>2</sup>	average number	average annual rate <sup>1</sup>	percent of total homicides <sup>2</sup>
Newfoundland and Labrador	3	0.57	42.9	2	0.31	37.2
Prince Edward Island	0	0.00	0.0	0	0.00	0.0
Nova Scotia	2	0.21	15.4	5	0.56	33.8
New Brunswick	2	0.26	28.6	2	0.31	29.9
Quebec	26	0.32	39.4	31	0.40	32.3
Ontario	41	0.30	25.3	62	0.48	34.0
Manitoba	7	0.55	14.6	10	0.81	19.6
Saskatchewan	3	0.27	10.0	6	0.59	16.9
Alberta	16	0.40	20.5	27	0.77	31.0
British Columbia	29	0.63	40.3	35	0.81	38.4
Yukon	0	0.00	...	0	0.60	13.3
Northwest Territories	0	0.00	0.0	1	1.16	20.8
Nunavut	2	5.62	50.0	1	4.08	28.3
<b>Canada</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>0.37</b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>31.5</b>

Province or territory	Stabbings					
	2013			Average 2003 to 2012		
	number of victims	rate <sup>1</sup>	percent of total homicides <sup>2</sup>	average number	average annual rate <sup>1</sup>	percent of total homicides <sup>2</sup>
Newfoundland and Labrador	1	0.19	14.3	1	0.21	25.6
Prince Edward Island	0	0.00	0.0	0	0.07	20.0
Nova Scotia	3	0.32	23.1	4	0.47	28.0
New Brunswick	3	0.40	42.9	3	0.36	35.1
Quebec	20	0.25	30.3	28	0.37	29.7
Ontario	66	0.49	40.7	55	0.43	30.4
Manitoba	25	1.98	52.1	19	1.60	38.9
Saskatchewan	14	1.26	46.7	16	1.55	44.8
Alberta	39	0.97	50.0	34	0.95	37.9
British Columbia	22	0.48	30.6	26	0.60	28.4
Yukon	0	0.00	...	1	1.50	33.3
Northwest Territories	1	2.30	50.0	1	1.85	33.3
Nunavut	1	2.81	25.0	1	4.08	28.3
<b>Canada</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>39.8</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>0.57</b>	<b>32.7</b>

... not applicable

1. Rates are calculated per 100,000 population using revised July 1st population estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

2. Homicides where the cause of death was unknown were excluded from the calculation of percentages.

**Note:** There may be a small number of homicides included in a given year's total that occurred in previous years. Homicides are counted according to the year in which they are reported to Statistics Canada.**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.



Table 5  
Homicides, by shootings and stabbings, by census metropolitan area, 2013

Census metropolitan area <sup>1</sup>	Shootings			Stabbings		
	number of victims	rate <sup>2</sup>	percent of total homicides <sup>3</sup>	number of victims	rate <sup>2</sup>	percent of total homicides <sup>3</sup>
St. John's	2	0.99	66.7	0	0.00	0.0
Halifax	2	0.49	33.3	2	0.49	33.3
Moncton	0	0.00	...	0	0.00	...
Saint John	0	0.00	0.0	1	0.68	50.0
Saguenay	0	0.00	...	0	0.00	...
Québec	0	0.00	0.0	1	0.13	33.3
Sherbrooke	0	0.00	...	0	0.00	...
Trois-Rivières	0	0.00	0.0	1	0.65	100.0
Montréal	20	0.50	48.8	12	0.30	29.3
Gatineau <sup>4</sup>	1	0.31	20.0	2	0.62	40.0
Ottawa <sup>5</sup>	2	0.21	25.0	6	0.62	75.0
Kingston	0	0.00	0.0	1	0.61	100.0
Peterborough	0	0.00	...	0	0.00	...
Oshawa	0	0.00	0.0	2	0.48	50.0
Toronto	28	0.47	35.9	28	0.47	35.9
Hamilton	5	0.68	35.7	5	0.68	35.7
St. Catharines–Niagara	2	0.45	40.0	0	0.00	0.0
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	0	0.00	0.0	1	0.19	12.5
Brantford	0	0.00	0.0	1	0.70	100.0
Guelph	0	0.00	...	0	0.00	...
London	2	0.40	22.2	2	0.40	22.2
Windsor	0	0.00	0.0	2	0.61	100.0
Barrie	0	0.00	0.0	0	0.00	0.0
Greater Sudbury	0	0.00	0.0	1	0.61	100.0
Thunder Bay	0	0.00	0.0	2	1.64	66.7
Winnipeg	3	0.37	11.5	14	1.75	53.8
Regina	1	0.43	11.1	6	2.56	66.7
Saskatoon	0	0.00	0.0	2	0.67	40.0
Calgary	3	0.22	12.5	16	1.16	66.7
Edmonton	4	0.31	15.4	12	0.93	46.2
Kelowna	2	1.08	66.7	1	0.54	33.3
Abbotsford–Mission	2	1.13	66.7	0	0.00	0.0
Vancouver	17	0.70	43.6	10	0.41	25.6
Victoria	0	0.00	0.0	1	0.28	100.0
<b>CMA total</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>0.39</b>	<b>28.7</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>0.54</b>	<b>39.5</b>
<b>Non-CMA total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>0.33</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>0.59</b>	<b>40.4</b>
<b>Canada</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>0.37</b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>39.8</b>

... not applicable

1. A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, other adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CMA typically comprises more than one police service.

2. Rates are calculated per 100,000 population using revised July 1st population estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

3. Homicides where the cause of death was unknown were excluded from the calculation of percentages.

4. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.

5. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.

**Note:** There may be a small number of homicides included in a given year's total that occurred in previous years. Homicides are counted according to the year in which they are reported to Statistics Canada.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

Table 6  
Gang-related homicides, by region, 2003 to 2013

Year	Atlantic		Quebec		Ontario		Manitoba		Saskatchewan	
	number of victims	rate <sup>1</sup>	number of victims	rate <sup>1</sup>	number of victims	rate <sup>1</sup>	number of victims	rate <sup>1</sup>	number of victims	rate <sup>1</sup>
2003	1	0.04	15	0.20	38	0.31	6	0.52	4	0.40
2004	0	0.00	18	0.24	17	0.14	5	0.43	4	0.40
2005	1	0.04	24	0.32	31	0.25	5	0.42	5	0.50
2006	1	0.04	23	0.30	27	0.21	7	0.59	9	0.91
2007	2	0.09	22	0.29	29	0.23	11	0.92	9	0.90
2008	1	0.04	21	0.27	31	0.24	14	1.17	2	0.20
2009	5	0.21	21	0.27	34	0.26	12	0.99	4	0.39
2010	5	0.21	19	0.24	22	0.17	5	0.41	10	0.95
2011	3	0.13	21	0.26	20	0.15	12	0.97	9	0.84
2012 <sup>r</sup>	4	0.17	25	0.31	23	0.17	5	0.40	8	0.74
2013	1	0.04	17	0.21	16	0.12	8	0.63	6	0.54

Year	Alberta		British Columbia		Territories		Canada	
	number of victims	rate <sup>1</sup>	number of victims	rate <sup>1</sup>	number of victims	rate <sup>1</sup>	number of victims	rate <sup>1</sup>
2003	8	0.25	12	0.29	0	0.00	84	0.27
2004	14	0.43	16	0.39	0	0.00	74	0.23
2005	23	0.69	16	0.38	0	0.00	105	0.33
2006	22	0.64	13	0.31	0	0.00	102	0.31
2007	20	0.57	24	0.56	1	0.93	118	0.36
2008	35	0.97	33	0.76	0	0.00	137	0.41
2009	13	0.35	35	0.79	0	0.00	124	0.37
2010	11	0.29	23	0.52	0	0.00	95	0.28
2011	16	0.42	14	0.31	0	0.00	95	0.28
2012 <sup>r</sup>	11	0.28	20	0.44	0	0.00	96	0.28
2013	10	0.25	27	0.59	0	0.00	85	0.24

<sup>r</sup> revised

1. Rates are calculated per 100,000 population using revised July 1st population estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

**Note:** A homicide is classified as gang-related when police confirm or suspect that the accused person and/or the victim involved in the homicide was either a member, or a prospective member, of an organized crime group or street gang or was somehow associated with an organized crime group or street gang, and the homicide was carried out as a result of this association. Prior to 2005, police were asked if the homicide was "gang-related". Beginning in 2005, the question was amended to give police the option of specifying whether the homicide was: (a) confirmed as gang-related or (b) suspected as being gang-related. As such, figures may be underestimated prior to 2005 due to suspected gang-related incidents that were excluded from the figures.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

Table 7  
Gang-related homicides, by selected census metropolitan areas, 2013

Census metropolitan area <sup>1</sup>	2013			Average 2003 to 2012		
	number of victims	rate <sup>2</sup>	percent of total homicides <sup>3</sup>	number of victims	annual average rate <sup>2</sup>	percent of total homicides <sup>3</sup>
Kelowna <sup>4</sup>	2	1.08	66.7	1	0.32	18.2
Regina	2	0.85	22.2	2	0.81	23.6
Vancouver	18	0.74	45.0	14	0.60	30.2
Saskatoon	2	0.67	40.0	2	0.89	31.1
Abbotsford-Mission	1	0.56	33.3	2	1.02	38.6
Winnipeg	4	0.50	15.4	6	0.80	23.0
Montréal	16	0.40	38.1	15	0.40	32.8
Windsor	1	0.30	50.0	0	0.12	9.5
Halifax	1	0.24	20.0	1	0.36	16.9
Toronto	14	0.24	20.9	21	0.39	25.6
Edmonton	3	0.23	12.0	9	0.80	28.6
Calgary	2	0.15	8.7	5	0.40	22.5
<b>CMA total<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>66</b>	<b>0.27</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>0.37</b>	<b>23.6</b>
<b>Non-CMA total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>0.18</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0.18</b>	<b>10.1</b>
<b>Canada</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>0.24</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>0.31</b>	<b>18.8</b>

1. A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, other adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CMA typically comprises more than one police service.

2. Rates are calculated per 100,000 population using revised July 1st population estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

3. Percent calculations exclude those homicides for which information on gang activity was unknown.

4. Kelowna became a CMA in 2006. As such, the average number and rate are calculated from 2006 to 2012.

5. Includes each of Canada's CMAs. The CMAs presented in this table are only those which recorded at least one gang-related homicide in 2013.

**Note:** A homicide is classified as gang-related when police confirm or suspect that the accused person and/or the victim involved in the homicide was either a member, or a prospective member, of an organized crime group or street gang or was somehow associated with an organized crime group or street gang, and the homicide was carried out as a result of this association. Prior to 2005, police were asked if the homicide was "gang-related". Beginning in 2005, the question was amended to give police the option of specifying whether the homicide was: (a) confirmed as gang-related or (b) suspected as being gang-related. As such, figures may be underestimated prior to 2005 due to suspected gang-related incidents that were excluded from the figures.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

Table 8  
Homicides, by accused-victim relationship, Canada, 2012 and 2013

Relationship type <sup>1</sup> (victim killed by)	2013		2012 <sup>f</sup>		Average 2003 to 2012	
	number of victims	percent <sup>2</sup>	number of victims	percent <sup>2</sup>	number of victims	percent <sup>2</sup>
Family relationship	126	32.8	145	35.3	150	33.4
Spousal relationship	44	11.5	62	15.1	69	15.4
Legal husband/wife	18	4.7	27	6.6	26	5.7
Common-law husband/wife	17	4.4	20	4.9	27	6.0
Separated or divorced husband/wife	3	0.8	11	2.7	11	2.4
Separated common-law husband/wife <sup>3</sup>	5	1.3	2	0.5	6	1.3
Same-sex spouse <sup>4</sup>	1	0.3	2	0.5	1	0.2
Other family relationship <sup>5</sup>	82	21.4	83	20.2	81	18.0
Father or mother	19	4.9	26	6.3	28	6.2
Son or daughter	32	8.3	30	7.3	21	4.7
Sibling	11	2.9	7	1.7	10	2.2
Extended family <sup>6</sup>	20	5.2	20	4.9	22	4.9
Intimate relationship <sup>7</sup>	24	6.3	20	4.9	21	4.6
Acquaintance	149	38.6	158	38.1	158	35.0
Close friend	34	8.9	44	10.7	33	7.4
Neighbour	15	3.9	12	2.9	13	2.9
Authority figure	3	0.8	0	0.0	2	0.4
Business relationship (legal)	3	0.8	10	2.4	8	1.7
Casual acquaintance	94	24.5	92	22.4	102	22.7
Criminal relationship <sup>8</sup>	36	9.4	23	5.6	46	10.3
Stranger	49	12.8	65	15.8	74	16.4
Unknown relationship	2	...	4	...	4	...
<b>Total solved homicides<sup>9</sup></b>	<b>386</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Unsolved homicides	119	...	128	...	143	...
<b>Total homicides</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>...</b>

... not applicable

<sup>f</sup> revised

1. Includes homicides with a known accused. If there were more than one accused, only the closest relationship to the victim was recorded.

2. Solved homicides where the type of relationship was unknown are excluded from the calculation of percentages.

3. Response categories for "separated common-law husband" and "separated common-law wife" were introduced to the Homicide Survey in 2005. As such, the average number and percent are calculated from 2005 to 2012.

4. Includes current and former same-sex spouses.

5. Includes biological, adopted, step and foster relationships.

6. Includes nieces, nephews, grandchildren, uncles, aunts, cousins, in-laws, etc., related by blood, marriage (including common-law) or adoption.

7. Includes dating relationships (current and former) and other intimate relationships.

8. Includes, for example, sex workers, drug dealers and their clients, loan sharks, or gang members. When more than one relationship applies (e.g. criminal relationship and close friend), police are asked to report the primary relationship.

9. Includes homicides with a known accused.

**Note:** The sum of averages may not add up to the total average due to rounding. Percentages may not add up due to rounding. Figures prior to 2013 may differ from previously published figures due to ongoing updates to the data files as new information becomes available.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.



Table 9

Homicide victims and accused persons, by sex, Canada, 2003 to 2013

Year	Victims					Accused persons				
	Males		Females		Total <sup>1</sup>	Males		Females		Total <sup>2</sup>
	number	percent <sup>3</sup>	number	percent <sup>3</sup>		number	percent <sup>3</sup>	number	percent <sup>3</sup>	
2003	391	71.2	158	28.8	549	490	88.8	62	11.2	552
2004 <sup>r</sup>	425	68.1	199	31.9	624	536	89.6	62	10.4	598
2005	483	72.9	180	27.1	663	599	90.5	63	9.5	662
2006	444	73.3	162	26.7	606	504	87.2	74	12.8	578
2007	431	72.6	163	27.4	594	492	89.8	56	10.2	549
2008 <sup>r</sup>	465	76.1	146	23.9	611	475	90.3	51	9.7	526
2009 <sup>r</sup>	450	73.8	160	26.2	610	498	89.2	60	10.8	558
2010 <sup>r</sup>	400	72.5	152	27.5	554	487	88.7	62	11.3	549
2011 <sup>r</sup>	422	70.7	175	29.3	598	507	89.7	58	10.3	565
2012 <sup>r</sup>	388	71.5	155	28.5	543	436	89.5	51	10.5	487
2013	358	70.9	147	29.1	505	400	88.5	52	11.5	452
Average 2003 to 2012	430	72.3	165	27.7	595	502	89.3	60	10.7	562

<sup>r</sup> revised

1. Totals in a given year may include a small number of victims whose sex was reported by police as unknown.

2. Totals in a given year may include a small number of accused persons whose sex was reported by police as unknown.

3. Homicides where the sex of the victim or the accused person was unknown were excluded from the calculation of percentages.

**Note:** Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

Table 10

Youth (12 to 17 years) accused of homicide, Canada, 2003 to 2013

Year	Male		Female		Total		Youth as a percent of total accused persons <sup>2</sup>
	number	rate <sup>1</sup>	number	rate <sup>1</sup>	number	rate <sup>1</sup>	
2003	52	3.96	10	0.80	62	2.43	11.3
2004	39	2.95	5	0.40	44	1.70	7.4
2005	62	4.64	10	0.79	72	2.76	10.9
2006	73	5.43	12	0.94	85	3.24	14.7
2007	67	5.00	8	0.62	75	2.86	13.7
2008	51	3.84	4	0.32	55	2.12	10.5
2009	73	5.56	6	0.48	79	3.08	14.2
2010 <sup>r</sup>	52	4.01	5	0.41	57	2.25	10.4
2011	40	3.13	6	0.50	46	1.85	8.1
2012 <sup>r</sup>	34	2.70	1	0.08	35	1.43	7.2
2013	34	2.77	5	0.43	39	1.63	8.6

<sup>r</sup> revised

1. Rates are calculated per 100,000 youth (12 to 17 years) population using revised July 1st population estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

2. Homicides where the age of the accused person was unknown were excluded from the calculation of percentages.

**Note:** Figures in this table may not match those from the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, as that survey includes those under the age of 12 in youth counts.**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.